The New-York Times.

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WASHINGTON.

CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCES.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Last evening and to-day have been devoted by the people of this city to the festivities of Christmas. The practice of Washington in its celebration of the holiday season has always accorded with that of the cities of the South, rather than the North, and perhaps no city in the Union more heartily or wholly gives itself up to the observance of the religious rites and the several pleasures of the season. Business is entirely suspended to-day. The weather, though rather threatening, has been mild and not unfavorable to the pursuit of pleasure, on which everybody seems to be intent.

"RELIEF" OF LABOR.

Several prominent members of Congress are receiving letters asking for an investigation of the demonstration by the unemployed working men of Chicago, and the laborers' strikes and the condition of working men all over the country. If such an investigation should be made, it will most likely fall to the lot of the Committee on Education and Labor, of which Mr. Monroe, of Ohio, a very able and influential Representative, is Chairman, and George F. Hoar, of Massachusetts, who has given the subject a great deal of attention, is a member. The condition of working men has received a great deal of consideration by many members of Congress, and the view very commonly entertained is that wise and cautious legislation, directed to improving the financial condition and prosperity of the country, will stimulate the demand for labor, and be of more advantage to working men than any of the special schemes for the relief of labor that have been or can be devised.

THE COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

An untruthful statement is made in a dispatch from here that the Secretary of the Treasury has taken away the power which the Commissioner of Internal Revenue has heretofore exercised of fixing the salaries of Collectors, and the amount of extra allowances and other details. On the contrary, the practice remains under the law just what it always has been, and the allowances in question are to be made, as heretofore, by the Commissioner, subject to the approval of the Secretary. Last year Commissioner Douglass saved $1,500,000 over the previous year by cutting down salaries and allowances to meet the necessities of the changed law, and it is his custom to give each case of this kind a personal examination. In no case has the allowance fixed by the Commissioner been diminished, but in a few instances there has been an increase. The complaints that have been made of Mr. Douglass' use of this power have always arisen from the amount fixed being deemed too small rather than too great. Mr. Douglass thinks the salaries of Collectors should be fixed by law, and has made such a recommendation in his annual report.

THE INTEREST ON THE DISTRICT DEBT.

Information is published here that the money necessary to pay the interest on the bonds of the District of Columbia due on the 1st of January, and amounting to $350,000, has been deposited by Gov. Shepherd in New-York.

CHRISTMAS IN OTHER PLACES.

A REMARKABLE DAY IN CINCINNATI.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 25.—The oldest inhabitant does not remember such a Christmas as to-day has been in Cincinnati. Shop-keepers say they never sold so many goods for the holidays as in the last two weeks. Cincinnati has thought of nothing else to-day. The streets have been gorged with people, and the places of amusement have been densely packed both afternoon and evening. The churches never before made such costly and elaborate preparations for the celebration of the day. Beggars without arms, or without eyes, or otherwise maimed, have sprung up like mushrooms, and have done a stirring business and pocketed many ducats. The usual Christmas dinner was given to 3,500 children of the Bethel Sabbath School at the Merchants' Exchange. They came, some of them, four miles, from all parts of the city. The dinner was provided by charity. The House of Refuge was all a-giggle with Christmas festivities. Cincinnati goes to sleep to-night stuffed and weary.

A QUIET DAY IN CHICAGO.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—To-day has been one of the quietest ever known in this city. It was a merry Christmas to but very few. The streets were almost deserted. Matinées were but thinly attended, while church worshipers were few and far between.

IN BOSTON.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—The observance of Christmas grows more general every year. To-day there has been a complete suspension of business. Many of the churches are profusely decorated with flowers and evergreens, and special musical selections combined to attract large audiences. Theatres and other places of amusement were crowded in the evening, as usual.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL OF THE KANSAS AT KEY WEST—HEAVY WEATHER.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 25.—Col. Blunt went to Havana last night on the Pinta on a tour of observation. The Kansas arrived to-day, having left Santiago de Cuba on Sunday, the 21st, at noon. The Canandaigua arrived at Santiago last Friday, at 2 P. M., and is now the only United States ship in that port. The officers of the Kansas report that they were well treated ashore at Santiago, the people being polite and the soldiers and sailors being careful to observe the salute. There are two regiments at Santiago, one of Cubans, and the other of volunteers. The former appear friendly and conciliatory, while the latter are insolent, and opposed to every concession. The steamer San Antonio left here at 11 o'clock this morning for New-York.

Last night we had a heavy rain, and to-night we have more rain and a stiff gale from the southward, which is expected to become a north-wester. Several vessels have been driven ashore, but it is impossible to obtain reliable particulars.

CHRISTOPHER RAFFERTY, THE THRICE-CONVICTED MURDERER.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—A supersedeas has been granted in the case of Christopher Rafferty, who was to have been hanged at Waukegan to-morrow. Three of the Supreme Court Judges signed the document, and their action in the premises is severely criticized. Rafferty has thrice been tried, and as often found guilty of murder in the first degree, but justice is slow in meting out to him the punishment he deserves. It will be remembered that he is guilty of the crime of killing Police Officer O'Meara in September, 1872.

A BLOODY AFFRAY—TWO KILLED AND ONE MORTALLY WOUNDED.

LANCASTER, N. H., Dec. 25.—A bloody fracas took place at Groveton, last evening, growing out of an attempt by Michael O'Leary and a Frenchman, named Blockwell, both intoxicated, to enter a house of questionable repute, owned by a Frenchman named Gouye. The result of the fight was the death of Gouye and his son, a young man, who was killed by O'Leary with a club, the mortal wounding of Blockwell with an ax by old Gouye, and a bad wound on O'Leary's head from a club used by the female inmates of the house.

SHOCKING MURDER IN BOSTON.

FIFTEEN WOUNDS INFLICTED WITH A PISTOL AND A HATCHET.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—A horrible tragedy was perpetrated this morning, at 12:45 o'clock, at No. 9 Province court, the victim being Antoine Hüller, and the murderer his employer, Joseph F. Hegner, a locksmith. At the hour above mentioned the sound of pistol-shots was heard, fired one after another in rapid succession, succeeded immediately by loud shouts and heavy blows. Mr. Milliken, proprietor of the Milliken House, sitting in his room in the hotel, heard the noises and called the police. Officers Hanscom and Wilson on their beats also heard the pistol-shots, and were directed to the door of No. 9 Province court by Mr. Milliken. Proceeding to the door, the officers were hailed by the private watchman of the premises, who sleeps across the way, and said he would come right down. The officers stood waiting for him to come down, when suddenly the murderer opened the door from the inside, and stepping in front of the officers, informed them that "There has been a murder in here." He was immediately seized. The officers then asked him where the murder had been committed. "In this room," was the reply, as he pointed to the front shop. The officers entered and found the murdered man lying upon the floor. His head was lying in blood, which had also been spattered over the floor, benches, and lathes of the locksmith shop. He was dressed in shirt and drawers, and though not quite dead, it was clear that death must surely come, and, seeing that it was impossible to render any assistance to the man, the officers took the murderer to the station. A hatchet covered with blood lay on one of the lathes, and was taken possession of by the police as the instrument by which the wounds had been made, and on making a hasty examination it was observed that the head was literally chopped by the blunt blade.

Coroner Foye was sent for, and proceeded at once to examine the body. There were three wounds behind the right ear, two in the mouth, one on the right side of the head, one in the left cheek, and others in various places, in all fifteen wounds, several of which were of so serious a nature that either of them would be fatal. The closest scrutiny discovered but one pistol wound, notwithstanding that several shots were heard and admitted to have been fired by Hegner. His statement is as follows: "Antoine Hüller has worked for me for several months, rooming with me until recently, when we gave up our room and began to sleep temporarily on the floor of the shop, upon a pile of coats and the like in the left-hand front corner. Last night I went to the shop at 11 o'clock, and found Hüller in bed. I partially undressed myself, and lay down beside him, and was fast dozing off to sleep, when I heard Hüller muttering, as if in his sleep, 'The hatchet is all ready; keep quiet.' Almost instantly he jumped to his feet, and I grappled with him. He was getting the better of me, and seizing the hatchet, was about to strike at me, when I drew my revolver and fired seven shots, one after another. I got possession of the hatchet then, and struck the man, hitting him till he became quiet." He says that he acted in self-defense, and that he did not intend to kill the man, but was so excited and frightened that he did not realize what he was doing.

BRITISH EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

LARGE DECREASE IN 1873 AS COMPARED WITH 1872.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics furnishes the following comparative statement showing some of the principal articles of British and Irish produce and manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the United States during the eleven months, ended Nov. 30, for the years 1872 and 1873:

Articles.	1872.	1873.
Cotton manufactures, piece goods, yards	126,458,883	104,278,043
Iron, pig, tons	185,846	99,098
Iron, bar, angle, bolt, and rod, tons	62,357	22,689
Iron, railroad of all sorts, tons	441,074	177,955
Iron, hoops, sheet, boiler and armor plates	29,829	17,988
Lead, pig, rolled, sheet, piping, and tubing	7,590	2,635
Linen manufactures, piece goods, yards	111,472,000	97,400,679
Silk manufactures, broad stuffs of silk or satin, value	$145,249	$74,570
Ribbons of all kinds	$60,530	$50,593
Other articles of silk only	$92,010	$89,336
Other articles of silk and other materials	$193,022	$76,989
Wool, sheep and lambs, pounds	2,199,111	819,081
Wool cloths, or wool mixed with other materials, yards	5,886,748	4,663,017
Worsted stuffs of all wool or wool mixed with other materials, yards	91,232,901	83,185,177
Carpets, yards	6,656,434	4,904,681

NEW-ORLEANS.

THE CUBAN EXCITEMENT SUBSIDED—THE WEATHER AND THE POOR—CONDITION OF BUSINESS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

NEW-ORLEANS, Sunday, Dec. 21, 1873.

The Cuban excitement, which had aroused the people of this city to the war pitch, has subsided. The legions which expected to go hence under the leadership of Gen. Longstreet, and capture that "pearl of the Antilles," have disbanded. Large numbers of men have been shipped here as able-bodied seamen to man the Government vessels, and have been forwarded to their points of destination. There are a great many men on our streets who are without work and without money who ought to be at work somewhere. They express a willingness to go anywhere, but their impecunious situation keeps them here as vagrants and wanderers. What to do with these people sorely puzzles the magistracy of the city when they are brought before them charged with such minor offenses as disorderly conduct and intoxication. Were it not for the mildness of the climate there would be very great suffering and distress, but the houseless wanderers can find out-door resting places at night, the weather being quite mild. During the day they find some means of getting food, so that their condition is not so bad as might be supposed, when they are not earning money for their support. Up to the present writing the thermometer ranges between 60° and 65°, and the people are enjoying the delights of an atmosphere which gives to invalids temporarily sojourning here renewed health and vigor, and to all classes pleasure and happiness. Overcoats and furs are not much in requisition, and from present indications, as well as the prognostications of the oldest inhabitants, it is thought there will be no use for these articles of wearing apparel.

The City Government is getting sadly behind in the payment of its obligations to employes, a large sum being due to them for services performed since the month of July last. Interesting developments are expected in regard to the conduct of city affairs, which it is said will account for this remissness in meeting the city obligations. Some assert that if some relief is not soon afforded to the laborers employed by the city authorities, that serious trouble may be apprehended.

It is expected that the banks here will resume fully the payment of currency on the 1st of the next month, as the cotton is fast coming into market, which makes business rather more lively than it has been for several months past. The business of the past season, however, has been so dull with the merchants, especially in the dry-goods line, that failures among that class of our mercantile community is inevitable, unless their creditors in New-York and elsewhere should be magnanimous enough to grant extension of time for payment.

AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

POLITICS—ROYALIST HOPES—THE BAZAINE TRIAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Monday, Dec. 8, 1873.

Since the formation of the new Ministry, things have been unusually quiet, each side of the House being very much afraid of the other, and neither being quite sure of its own strength. The recent action of the Left upset many a theory, and destroyed many very agreeable hopes. By its abstention in the vote for the Committee of Thirty, a dead-lock was caused, which could only be destroyed by compromise. The Left said: "We have accorded you a large majority of the members of this committee, but we cannot give you all; unless you agree to vote for our candidates we shall abstain from voting altogether. The Right held out for a moment, but in the end was forced to yield. After a number of ballots, in which there were not a sufficient number of votes to make it legal, the Right agreed to compromise, and elected two members from the Left Centre. This shows that the Left always has a powerful weapon in its hands to use when pressed too hardly, and the knowledge of this fact has completely disconcerted the Royalists. Their calculations have been disturbed and their plans overthrown. They wanted everything their own way, which would be very agreeable beyond doubt, and they are not at all pleased to find that a way has been found for preventing them from getting everything nicely arranged in their own fashion. Meantime, a small calculation has been made of what this political game costs the country. Each day the Assembly meets costs the nation 22,000 francs, not counting the rent of the palace. The first vote for the election of this committee was begun on the 26th November, and it ended on the 4th December, which makes, in round numbers, the sum of 198,000 francs which France has had to pay for the election of a single parliamentary committee. Of course such calculations have no weight with men experienced in public affairs, but they do have weight with the tax-payer and the peasant, and once more the cry is raised that if this body cannot do better than that it would do well to give place to another which can.

ROYALIST HOPES.

The hopes of the Comte De Chambord and his partisans, which barely survived the famous letter of the King, have now been completely destroyed. The famous fusion has been torn into shreds. Once more the Legitimist organs are attacking the Orleanists as savagely as they attacked the Republicans only the other day. History is again repeating itself. The Orleanists are accused, as in 1848, of having destroyed the chances of the legitimate heir to the throne, and the small number of faithful followers have withdrawn from the fusion, and now refuse to vote with M. De Broglie. The Bonapartists, adhering to their policy of an appeal to the nation, vote first on one side, and then on the other, according as their particular interests are menaced. The rest of the Chamber is very nearly equally divided, and the Ministry cannot count upon a majority upon any important question. It was this fact which made me predict another crisis when it came to the debate upon the constitutional project. M. Thiers had an idea that he could detach enough members from the Right Centre to form a majority, by promising a certain number of seats in the Senate. M. De Broglie hopes to win a number of votes from the Left Centre by the same means. The difficulty was to reach the point where Senatorial seats could be offered—to have the Senate voted in principle. But that point was never reached. At the present moment I can see no signs to induce me to believe that M. De Broglie will be more fortunate, for there seems very little hope of seeing the report of the Committee of Thirty adopted by the Chamber. The main trouble is, that the members of the Assembly think more of themselves than they do of the country. They have a direct personal interest in prolonging the provisional state of things which now exists as long as possible, for only a limited number of them would be elected if the present Chamber were dissolved. Many votes which must seem very irregular on your side of the Atlantic are induced by the fact that they relate, remotely perhaps, to the duration of the present Assembly.

THE BAZAINE TRIAL.

The Bazaine trial is now near its end, and the decision is expected to-morrow. This seems a very short time, since Lachaud is still speaking, but the Duc d'Aumale has some important matter on hand, and wants to get through with the trial to-morrow evening if possible. And in this case there is little need of delay, for the opinion of the court has been already formed, and nothing that Lachaud can say will alter it in any shape or fashion. The offhand way in which a *pékin* is treated in a military court is remarkable, and every one knows that he is only tolerated in order to avoid public scandal. It is a mere matter of form; but for all the influence he will have upon this military court Lachaud might just as well sing a comic song. The eminent lawyer knows it, too, and is, therefore, making a speech to the public. Gen. Pourcet's plea was very well written, but the General is so poor a reader that he wearied every one before he had gone over a hundred lines. It was ridiculously monotonous to hear him humming and droning over a mass of manuscript, when not one word in ten could be caught by his auditors. He would read a sentence nearly to the end, get stuck at a word, begin back half way, get stuck again, and begin the same sentence afresh. Stenographic reporters will appreciate what this means, and can fancy how the first hour's reporting looked when written out. There were so many repetitions that the official reporters ceased their translation, and asked the General for his copy. He followed Gen. Rivière's report very closely, and evidently begun to write his plea a long time ago, for he has repeated three or four charges which were disproved by the evidence. Naturally this made a man like Lachaud smile, for he appreciated the incompetence of his adversary to follow the line of evidence. Gen. Pourcet has raised a cry of indignation by his attempt to whitewash Gambetta in order to accuse Bazaine, and the army does not like it, because one is a mere lawyer and the other a soldier. Pourcet said that it belonged to Gambetta to express the national sorrow at Bazaine's treason. Lachaud made a hit yesterday by reading a dispatch from Gambetta ordering the other men of September not to proceed with the inquiry demanded by Bazaine into his conduct, for, said he, "his case has been already judged." That, said Lachaud, is the ordinary language of dictators. Their own judgment is placed above that of the tribunals.

SARDOU'S PAMPHLET.

M. Sardou has felt the necessity of justifying himself in print, and has had a pamphlet written in order to recorrect the adventures of *L'Oncle Sam*. In this pamphlet it is stated that the piece had a great—an immense—success in New-York. The object of the pamphlet appears to be to get revenge upon M. Thiers and M. Barthélemy Saint-Hilaire for having refused permission to allow it upon the stage here. Both of these gentlemen are severely ridiculed and attacked, and Gratiot Washburne is quoted to show that these gentlemen were wrong. Sardou says that he submitted this piece to young Washburne, (who had then left school but a short time and held no official position,) who said that it contained nothing which could wound the susceptibilities of his countrymen. Gratiot Washburne is a very amiable and kindly young gentleman who likes to say a pleasant word for everybody, and I have no doubt he did say something of the kind to M. Sardou, but that playwright must be hard pushed for arguments when this is quoted as his strongest point against M. Thiers. Mr. Washburne refused to read the piece, or to have anything to say about it one way or the other, and after that it looks very small in M. Sardou to pump something out of his young son for the purpose of using it in print. I have no doubt that, to make a point in his own favor, M. Victorien Sardou would compromise Gratiot Washburne, or any friend he has in the world. The *Figaro*, which yesterday betrayed M. Trégogli for giving it some secret information about young Jules Simon, with whom he was on the most intimate terms, gives several columns from this pamphlet in its issue of to-day.

DUMAS' NEW PLAY.

"Monsieur Alphonse," Dumas' drama, now being played at the Gymnase, is having a great run, thanks to the excellent acting, the rich costumes, and the gorgeous scenery. It is a very sentimental piece, and those who like to shed tears over the imaginary woes of imaginary human beings, are very well content with an evening at this theatre. The director is a very clever man, who knows his business well, and who knows how to make the most of a good thing. The receipts for the past month have been unprecedented.

THE WEATHER.

SYNOPSIS AND PROBABILITIES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26—1 A. M.—The storm which was central off the Florida Coast this morning has moved northward, with heavy rain on the South Atlantic Coast, the area of lowest barometer being now central near the coast of South Carolina; a second area of low barometer is now central in the upper lake region, and cloudy and threatening weather, with light to fresh southerly winds, are prevalent from the Upper Mississippi Valley, and thence eastward over the Ohio Valley and the lake region; partly cloudy weather, with light variable winds, and with slight changes in pressure and temperature prevails in New-England and the Middle States; clearing weather, with combined low temperature and north-westerly winds, prevails in the Lower Mississippi Valley; the temperature remains above freezing in all the districts, except in Northern New-England and Minnesota.

PROBABILITIES.

For New-England, cloudy and threatening weather and possibly rain or snow during Friday afternoon and evening. The temperature in this district will fall slightly, with increasing but variable winds.

For the Middle Atlantic States, generally cloudy weather, with rain or snow, especially on the coast, and fresh to brisk north-westerly to north-easterly winds.

For the South Atlantic States, brisk and fresh north-westerly to south-westerly winds, with continued cloudy weather and rain, followed by clearing weather in the afternoon or evening.

For the lake region partly cloudy weather, with areas of snow and increasing south-easterly to South-westerly winds.

For the Ohio Valley and thence Southward to Tennessee and Southward to the Lower Mississippi Valley, less cloudiness, with winds gradually veering to westerly, and with slight change of temperature and pressure.

For the Upper Mississippi Valley clouding and threatening weather, with light rain or snow followed by increasing pressure, lower temperature, and clearing weather.

For the canal regions of New-York and Pennsylvania the temperature will rise slightly during the day.

IN THIS CITY.

The following record shows the changes in the temperature during the last twenty-four hours, as recorded at Hudnut's drug store, No. 218 Broadway: 3 A. M. 33°; 6 A. M. 33°; 9 A. M. 35°; 12 M. 38°; 3 P. M. 40°; 6 P. M. 38°; 9 P. M. 37°; 12 P. M. 35°. Average, 36⅛°.

THE RING FUGITIVES.

No additional information of interest could be obtained yesterday concerning Genet and the Ex-Court-house Commissioners, and their fellow-conspirators, George S. Miller and John D. Welch, Jr. The general Christmas rejoicing drove all thought of the fugitives out of the minds of the general public, and the officers pursuing them, succumbing to the influence of the day, relaxed their efforts. The subject, however, furnished interesting gossip to knots of politicians gathered in the various hotels, and they seemed to be generally united in the opinion that Genet was en route for Brazil. The report of his departure in the steamer Ontario, published exclusively in yesterday's TIMES, was believed. Coman, it was said, passed the day with his friends, but was careful to keep himself concealed from the public eye.

The fact as to whether or not the other men missing intend to stay away permanently will only be clearly established if they fail to put in an appearance when again called for trial. The probabilities at present are that they will never return to the City.

THE FAMINE IN IOWA.

The destitute families in north-west Iowa number as follows: In Osceola County, 200 families; in Lyons County, 100 families; Cherokee, 10; Sioux, 200; O'Brien, 250; Plymouth, 10; Clay, 50; Dickinson, 15; Emmet, 30; Kossuth, 50; Buena Vista, 35; Palo Alto, 30. Total number of families, 680, or 4,000 persons. The articles most needed are clothing, fuel, and provisions, besides seed to sow 75,000 acres of land already broken. The people of Iowa are coming forward generously to the relief of the sufferers. Contributions are asked from other parts of the country. The State Grange has made a call of twenty cents per member throughout the State, which will furnish a large sum.

THE AUGUSTA MILLS.

Announcement has been made that the cotton mills of the A. & W. Sprague Manufacturing Company in Augusta, Me., will run on full time again on and after Monday, Dec. 29, and the *Journal* of that city says: "For several days there has been a lack of cotton, but a full supply is expected this week, with the understanding that there shall be no embarrassment for want of material in the future. The few weeks of relaxation which have been granted to the operatives on account of the half-time system have proved real blessings, and as they return now to their eleven hours of duty each day, they will feel invigorated and better prepared for the tasks before them. Many of the old hands who knocked off work and went to their homes at the beginning of the half-time system will return to their work again."

BRIGHT METEOR.

The Washington *Chronicle* says that on Wednesday evening at about 7:45 o'clock persons out of doors in that city were startled by a bright light, and, on looking, a ball of white light was seen passing across the heavens from east to west, shining with great brilliancy throughout its course, notwithstanding the moon was up. Immediately after it disappeared, an explosion, like that of a heavy gun, was heard throughout the city.

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

THE DISORDERED FINANCES—A REMEDIAL SCHEME SUGGESTED.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Dec. 20, 1873.

Ever since the beginning of the insurrection, one of the principal complaints of the Spanish party, and the most feared antagonist of the Spanish rule in Cuba, has been the unsatisfactory state of the finances. The Spanish Bank issued million after million of paper money on behalf of the Government, and the promise to redeem in specie has been obsolete since 1869. No guarantee is offered that the notes will be redeemed in a suitable manner, even if Spain should be successful in suppressing or keeping the revolution within certain bounds. Such a state of affairs, caused by the steady inflation of a wild-cat currency, naturally produced a financial crisis, which is fast approaching a national bankruptcy. The depreciation of the paper currency, the dollar being now at from eighty to eighty-five per cent. discount, has naturally increased the price of all imported goods, and, with the exception of sugar, everything consumed here is imported from abroad. Large quantities of coffee, formerly exported to the amount of several millions of dollars, are now imported from Porto Rico and San Domingo, while even small parcels of tobacco are imported from Porto Rico for consumption in the Eastern Department. Plan after plan has been proposed to give the finances a healthier look, and place the public Treasury and bank operations on a sound basis; but all plans have turned out impracticable, because it is impossible to build a house without materials, and no other guarantee exists for the payment of over 110 millions of paper money than about six millions of gold in the vaults of the Spanish Bank. Even this guarantee is partly visionary, as no sane man entertains any doubt but that the Government would seize all this specie without a moment's warning, if the necessities of the country should require it.

The Junta of the Debt, (a body of men chosen from among the principal members of the ultra party and a sprinkling of Government employes,) who have all embargoed properties under their control, have, after deliberating many months, presented a scheme for the solution of the financial problem, and submitted it to the Colonial Minister. The document states that the amount of paper money issued by the Spanish Bank for the Government amounts to $87,783,176. But to this amount must be added about $17,000,000, making the sum total of currency in circulation about $104,000,000. To regulate this chaos, and make the bank bill retain a certain value, and at the same time prevent a grave financial crisis, which, in its results, would be more disastrous to the Spaniards than the loss of a dozen battles, the Junta of the Debt propose:

1. To class the paper money issued into series, namely, the notes issued by the bank on its own account, and those issued by the bank for the Government.

2. That the Island Treasury be responsible for all notes issued for government account, relieving the bank from all responsibility.

3. Demand the authorization from the Government to declare the notes issued on behalf of the Treasury as of forced circulation.

4. That the Treasury shall pay on a gold basis after the adoption of this law, excepting Customs duties, where paper will be received for three months later, and that a regular bourse of quotations be established.

5. To solicit the necessary authority from the Supreme Government to place the $13,000,000 of the loan of 1872, which have not been taken up yet, at a rate below par, convert the proceeds into specie, and use it toward extinguishing of debt.

6. To extinguish the debt gradually, establish a sinking fund of $250,000 a month, and to employ $5,000,000 of the war tax every year, after paying the interest on the debt, for the same purpose. After the conclusion of the war to destine the whole product of the war tax toward the payment of the debt.

7. To pay to the Spanish Bank all moneys due by Government.

8. To establish an extraordinary and forced contribution of $20,000,000, payable in four years by the people, and in advance every three months pro rata; this sum to be used in paying the new debt owing to the Spanish Bank. If the honest administration of the public taxes should produce enough to liquidate the old debts, then this contribution to be omitted as unnecessary.

This is the proposition of the Junta of the Debt, and another, different in its nature, is expected from the Intentende, or Minister of Finance, who wants the officials to have more voice in the control and disposition of the public funds than the Debt Junta propose to let them have. A number of merchants and others object strongly to the plan proposed by the Junta, and denounce the proposed forced circulation of the Governmental bank notes, the issuing of interest-bearing bonds, and the mode of settlement with the Spanish Bank, in the strongest terms, while the noisy Spanish patriots have been troubled with an elongation of the under lip at the idea of a forced contribution. The merchants are also very angry with the Spanish Bank, because that institution, fearing the proposed division of bank notes, and the depreciation of the notes issued on its own behalf, has taken time by the forelock, and in discounting bills states that the amount is payable in notes of the Spanish Bank, thus inaugurating a difference between its own paper and that issued on behalf of the Government. This makes the discounting of bills very onerous, as the payees fear that in order to liquidate their indebtedness three or six months hence, they will be compelled to purchase notes of the Spanish Bank at a premium, against the notes issued by the Government.

GEN. BURRIEL.

This famous half-Spanish and half-Irish hero is again at his post in Santiago de Cuba, where he will remain only a few weeks longer. The Captain General would have relieved him of his command at once in order to appease public opinion abroad, but such a removal would have produced a contrary effect in the island while the Virginius affair was still under discussion. Burriel himself is in favor of being sent home, as he knows the situation he is placed in, and wishes to get even with the parties in Spain who lately opposed the promotion he anticipated to a Mariscal de Campo, or Major General. The report published in a New-York journal, that he had been promoted, is untrue, and the denial of the promotion was given previous to the Virginius affair, and is in no wise connected with it. It is due only to Burriel's well-known adherence to the Isabelenos or Alphonsist party.

DIVISIONS AMONG THE SPANIARDS.

It would appear only natural that the representatives here of the present Republican Government in Spain should be Republicans, or at least that they should favor a Republican policy. Such, however, is not the fact, and excepting one or two of the higher employes, the officials are as bitterly opposed to Castelar and his party as Don Carlos himself. According to the statement of persons well versed in the wheel-within-a-wheel policy of the palace, the grand question now occupying the representative of the nation, who is urged on by the reactionary spirits presiding over the Casino, and by Gens. Portilla, Campurano, Riquelme, Acosta, and others, is that of destroying the Spanish Republican Party in Cuba. The ultra *Voz* is the organ of the palace, while the Republican press is more pursued by the censor than the *Siglo* or *Occidente* in the days of Lersundi. The *Voz* of to-day attacks the *Gorrofrigio*, declaring it to be a worse enemy of the Spanish Government than the Cuban journal in New-York; and the *Voz* plainly foreshadows the plan already discussed in the palace, and which very probably will become a law, namely, the "*ley de sospechosos*, or law against suspected persons. The *Voz* calles the editors of the *Gorrofrigio* as something more than *sosperhosos*, and according to this law the Captain General could arrest and punish them with unlimited imprisonment, banishment from the island, and even try them by a court-martial, with power to inflict a death sentence. It seems ridiculous at this time to stigmatize Spaniards as worse than rebels because they are opposed to monarchical institutions. Nevertheless it is so, and the leaders of the Spanish Republican Party are more hated by the leaders of the Ultra party than Cespedes, Aguilera, or any other prominent Cuban revolutionist. The *Voz* takes great umbrage at the *Gorrofrigio* because the latter announced the accession of over four hundred persons to the Republican ranks. That the dominating party here is resolved to destroy the Republican Party is certain, and in order to accomplish this end a war, under the protection of an old law issued in 1834, has already been inaugurated against the Republican press.

SUPPRESSION OF REPUBLICAN JOURNALS.

The Republicans in Cuba, as a rule, are not people of wealth or station, although they possess brains. Brains are of little effect without money, and, therefore, a large number of Republican journals, for which permission to publish has been solicited from the Government, have not yet made their appearance. With one or two exceptions, the Republican journals published already do not possess any capital, and barely maintain their existence, and in order to stop the appearance of any new ones, or suppress those already existing, the Captain General has revived the old law of 1834, and notified the directors of the papers that in order to be allowed to publish they must first deposit the requisite 10,000 rials vellon ($500,) and that the political journals already appearing must deposit this amount within thirty days, or, failing to do so, will be suppressed. Republican Spain in Cuba does not understand anything about free speech or a free press.

DARING CRIMES.

Crime seems to be in the ascendant here, although nightly arrests are made of all suspicious characters who are found without papers, and as many as fifty or sixty of these vagrants have been arrested in one night. Yesterday morning, about 3 o'clock, Mr. Stanislaus, administrator of the *Diario de la Marina*, was awakened from a sound sleep, and, before he had time to utter a cry for help, was bound and a thick handkerchief tied over his mouth. His nephew, sleeping in the same room, was similarily served by a number of armed men, who, it appears, had effected an entrance by the balcony, to which they had ascended by climbing up a rope. Placing a poniard to the breast of Mr. Stanislaus the robbers extorted from him, under pain of death, the secret of the complication-lock of the safe, and, having opened it, proceeded to appropriate its contents. They carried off $28,000, $4,000 being the property of Mr. Stanislaus, $1,500 belonging to Señor Juan Ariza, the editor, and the balance to the *Journal*. Some three or four persons have been arrested on suspicion. Last evening another bold robbery took place, to which murder was added. Three well-dressed persons called at the residence of Dr. Gallardo, in the Calle Lamparilla and asked for the doctor. They were told he was out, upon which they signified their intention of waiting. The porter showed them to seats, and in a few moments two of them asked the porter to show them the way to another part of the house, and as he stepped forward to do so he was attacked by them. He probably attempted to defend himself, as his body was found pierced with seven poniard stabs. The robbers then proceeded to rifle the house, and took all the valuables, including a large sum in money. This happened in the evening, about 8 o'clock. This same Dr. Gallardo, by the way, is the gentleman reported to be the one who attempted to set fire to the Virginius.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. William Zach has assumed the Consul Generalship of the German Empire. This makes the fourth diplomatic consulate in the island, the others being those of Great Britain, France, and the United States. All other consulates are filled by merchants.

The Italian Opera Company began its season on Thursday last, Mme. Murska appearing as *Amina*, in the "Somnambula," achieving an unprecedented success, being enthusiastically encored and called before the curtain. Mme. Lucca also achieved a triumph in the "Favorita" last night. Some of the journals attack her severely, because she refused to give up the theatre for a performance of the opera bouffe company, for the benefit of the French Benevolent Society.

QUASIMODO.

OBITUARY.

CHARLES LENOX REMOND.

The Boston papers announce that Mr. Charles Lenox Remond, well known in connection with the anti-slavery movement, died of consumption at Greenwood, Mass., on Monday. He was born and brought up in Salem, Mass., and in 1838 took the field as a lecturer under the auspices of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and, in company with Rev. Ichabod Codding, canvassed the States of Maine, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. In 1840 he visited England as a delegate to the first World's Anti-Slavery Convention, held in London. He remained abroad about two years, lecturing throughout Great Britain. On his return he was well received and renewed his vocation as a lecturer.

MAJOR EDWARD WRIGHT.

Major Edward Wright, late Paymaster United States Army, and one of the oldest and wealthiest citizens of Chicago, died suddenly on Wednesday night, at his residence there. He was the father-in-law of Hon. E. Peck.

STABBING AFFRAYS.

Michael Scanlon and Francis Donohue, of No. 102 Mott street, quarreled last night, at their residence, and during the fracas which ensued, Donohue stabbed Scanlon in the left cheek and the back of the head, inflicting severe wounds. Both the brawlers were arrested.

Richard Williams, aged twenty-two, of No. 129 West Forty-eighth street, and Henry Walters, of No. 156 Forsyth street, quarreled last night, at the residence of the latter. Walters stabbed Williams in the back, inflicting a severe wound. They were both arrested and locked up at the Eldridge Street Police Station.

LATEST NEWS BY CABLE.

SPAIN.

PROGRESS OF THE SIEGE OF CARTAGENA.

LONDON, Dec. 26—3:30 A. M.—Special dispatches from Cartagena announce that Fort San Julian, one of the strongest defenses of the city, has been breached.

An accidental explosion in the Ferial Battery, yesterday, killed twenty officers and men of the besieging force.

GENERAL NOTES.

Twenty Poughkeepsie families are making arrangements to emigrate to Lower California in the Spring.

A. H. Louis, druggist, "mistook the bottle," two or three days ago, and the death of a little child was the result.

Senator-elect Charles Kellogg, of Oswego, severely sprained his ankle by the overturning of a stage in which he was riding a day or two ago.

A student in the University of Pennsylvania has been arrested in Philadelphia, for stealing a skeleton, and the skulls of a walrus and a gorilla.

Lawrence, Mass., has not suffered long from the effects of the panic, all its mills, except the Washington, being as full and busy as usual.

Louisiana papers report that the sugar yield is small. In Terrebonne, Assumption, and Lafourche it is estimated at not two-thirds what it was in 1872.

A Westfield, Mass., man, whose son was rescued from drowning, while skating the other day, gave the boy a flogging and his brave preserver a cigar.

Mrs. Nancy Moore, of Wakefield, Mass., celebrated Christmas and her one hundred and third birthday together. She is quite blind. Her mother lived to be one hundred years old.

A New-Orleans paper has discovered "several" gentlemen in that city who have mutually agreed not to make use of any foreign goods when it can possibly be avoided.

John C. Killeen, a miner, fell 1,200 feet down the shaft of the Consolidated Virginia Mine, in Nevada, on the 14th inst. The local paper says his body was crushed into a pulp, and his head mashed into a shapeless mass.

Official returns of the late election from all but one county in Mississippi, give Ames, for Governor, 73,300, and Alcorn, 52,719. The majority for Gen. Ames is 20,581, and the total vote, 126,187, against 114,283 for the same office in 1869.

Hon. William Allen's colored coachman and German servant girl have eloped and been married, greatly to the consternation of the Democrats, who have just elected Mr. Allen Governor of Ohio on a strictly anti-miscegenation platform.

A New-Jersey correspondent of the Philadelphia *Age* brings forward, in a very brief note, the names of Gov. Parker, of New-Jersey, and James Thompson and Gov. Hendricks, of Indiana, for the Democratic nomination for President in 1876.

A little Washington newsboy anticipated Christmas by presenting his mother with a $65 sewing-machine, after paying her $3 per week board, all from his earnings since March last, and he has attended school regularly every day, at that.

The Albany *Evening Journal* says that Gov. Dix has made no decision as to the successor of Judge Peckham, and that as the Court of Appeals will take a recess till January, he probably will make no appointment until after the holidays.

A man died in New-Bedford, Mass., the other day, who was a hundred years old, and the *Mercury* believing that there remain nearly a score of residents in the city who have passed their ninetieth year, says that men live longer and grow old more slowly there than anywhere else in the country.

The Charleston *News* says that the announcement of the discovery of a tree in Australia that possesses anti-miasmatic properties, has excited a deep interest in the low country of South Carolina, and a general desire is entertained to know something more of it. An effort is to be made to obtain a number of the plants.

The Montgomery *State Journal*, the leading Republican paper in Alabama, bids farewell to the Legislature with frank words. It says that thousands of dollars have been paid out, and thirty days of precious time worse than squandered, while not a single desirable measure of relief has been adopted, and "Alabama, shorn of her beauty and her credit, is left naked to her enemies."

An economical improvement has been introduced in an Eastern railroad, by which a great saving of coal is made. It consists of a coil of pipe placed inside the smoke-stack of the locomotive, and connected with the pump which supplies the boiler. The cold water from the tender passes through this pipe, and is heated by the exhaust steam and the spent heat from the flues.

Already, this year, 117 miners have been killed and 354 maimed in the coal mines in Schuylkill, Northumberland, Columbia, and Dauphin Counties, Penn. The list is largely increased from last year, and some of the papers are urging that the State Legislature levy a tax of one cent a ton on coal sent to market, for the erection of hospitals in the coal regions.

A correspondent of a South Carolina paper calls upon every county grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, and every farmers' club in the State to send delegates to a convention in Columbia, on Thursday, the 15th January, 1874, to address their fellow-citizens of the other States, and petition Congress to save their homes from confiscation, themselves from pauperism, and their children from ignorance, degradation, and slavery.

The official returns of the judicial election in California in October have just been canvassed, and show that Samuel H. Dwinelle, Republican, had 14,380 votes for Justice of the Supreme Court, and Elisha W. McKinstry, Independent, 25,609. For the short term, Anson Bronson, Republican, had 11,446, and Samuel Bell McKee, Independent, 19,862. The total vote was very small, being only 39,989, while for Governor in 1871 it was 120,101, and for President in 1872 it was 94,738.

The English colony at Pitcairn's Island, composed of descendants of the mutineers of the ship Bounty, now consists of seventy-six persons, who are very poor and lack many requisites of civilized life. Recently they have received supplies of food, &c., from San Francisco upon the representation of a Captain in the merchant marine, who reported the pressing necessities of the people and made a public appeal in their behalf. The people maintain a school, and are very religious.

Colorado papers continue to complain of the needless slaughter of the buffaloes. The meat sells in Greeley as low as three cents a pound, and some has been sold for two cents. One paper says: "The whole valley is alive with hunters and teams. The Utes and Sioux are also mixing in, and they get boiling mad if they find a hunter killing for sport. One hunter had fifty robes packed for transportation, and while off hunting for more the Sioux came up and burnt most of them."

There is a sadly disappointed young lady in Tennessee. A few days ago she was at the church at the appointed hour ready to be married. The groom was late, but at last came rushing in, seeming deeply affected. He took a seat by her side and asked her to pray for him, stating that he was in great distress. Having received her promise, he hastily stepped out of the church, and has not been heard from since. This is the story as the Knoxville *Chronicle* tells it, that paper seeming to think it necessary to add that "of course the wedding did not take place."

Mr. Michikazu Yosubu Nawa, one of the Japanese students, who has been lately reading law in Boston, died of typhoid fever in that city on the 17th inst. He was born in 1842, and in 1864, with a Lieutenant's commission, he took part in an unsuccessful enterprise under the Prince of Chiosu. During the late civil war in Japan he served as Colonel and aid-de-camp to Gen. Takasugi. At the close of the war he was attached to the Foreign Department, and when Mr. Arinori Mori was appointed Minister to the United States he served as Second Secretary.

HARBOR OBSTRUCTIONS.

THE ENCROACHMENTS.

GRADUAL CLOSING OF PORTIONS—HISTORY OF THE WATER GRANTS—FILLING IN OF THE HARBOR AND FORMATION OF SHOALS.

The City of New-York owes her pre-eminence to natural advantages, and the immense facilities for commerce conferred by her geographical position.

She has unquestionably a most magnificent harbor, anchorage not to be excelled, and facilities for shipment superior to any large commercial city in the world. Favored, as she is, with a water frontage extending along the shores of the island about forty miles, and deriving immediate advantage from her proximity to the shores of Jersey and Brooklyn, she appears justly entitled to the proud distinction of being called the Empire City. Yet, like all great maritime ports into which large rivers discharge themselves, she is exposed to a danger which, if not checked in time, will ultimately render nugatory her magnificent water facilities, and finally so effectually block up and obliterate the entrance to the bay and channels of approach, that vessels of large draught will not have sufficient water to float them to the City. History affords many examples of the closing of great harbors. Instance the great cities of antiquity, Tyre, Sidon, Carthage, and Syracuse. In certain inland seas, such as the German Ocean, English Channel, and St. George's Channel, it is not unusual for ports to be destroyed by the deposit of sand and silt. On the German Ocean, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, Lynn, Aberdeen, and other lesser harbors on the east coast of England have been blockaded from like causes. Deal, on the English Channel, a port where large fleets used to resort, is no longer a port of call, and other harbors on the same coast have had their estuaries so filled in, that the towns are now far removed—two to three miles in some cases—from their present ports, and the course of their rivers completely changed. On St. George's Channel is the large harbor of Wexford, now almost converted into an immense bank of mud; and a few miles further on the same coast is Bannow, where the Normans landed to invade Ireland, formerly a respectable port and parliamentary burrough, now reduced to a small fishing village, the harbor filled in, and the old town totally covered up by sand. The destruction of these harbors was no doubt the work of years, and caused by the solid matter carried down by rivers which discharged themselves into the ports, and by sand thrown up by currents of the sea, both being allowed to accumulate for want of proper means to remove them. Attention has repeatedly been called to the gradual filling in of New-York harbor, and for all that has been done up to the present, it seems more than probable that in the course of years a similar fate awaits her. Eminent engineers have given their opinion on the subject, and raised their warning voices; remedies have been pointed out, and disregarded or neglected until now matters have assumed so serious and alarming an appearance that a superior authority will have to be invoked to save the harbor from destruction. It has been observed in connection with the gradual filling-in of harbors, and the obstruction of tidal waters, that the current ebbs and flows and the deep channel is generally formed at the side of the river where the land is most elevated, while the solid matter carried down by the current is generally deposited on the low shore where the force of the stream is impeded by the shallows. The gradual encroachment on the waterways of the Hudson and East Rivers has had the effect of producing shoals more rapidly than if the ancient shore boundaries had been retained. If, said one of the engineers above referred to, there were no receptacle for tidal water to pass in and out at every tide, the harbor would cease to exist, and he earnestly calls the attention of those who would reclaim low lands bordering on the river and harbor to the injury they would do the public and themselves by the reduction of the break-water, upon which the harbor was dependent. All interruption, therefore, of whatever description, to the free ingress and egress of tidal water, ought to be carefully guarded against, and the volume of water which effects the scouring of channels be allowed to flow in its proper course unimpeded.

The history of the encroachments on the Harbor of New-York, referred to in the above suggestions, dates back to the possession of the country by the English. In the year 1730 the City had extended its limits to Bestaver's Killitje, a small stream emptying itself into the Hudson, near the present Charlton street, at that time the aristocratic quarter. In that year some of the leading merchants procured a grant to the City from the then Gov. Montgomerie, of a belt of land beyond low-water mark, 400 feet wide, extending from Bestaver's Kill, all the way around the foreshore, excepting the water-front of the Battery, to a point near the present Houston street, on the East River—a tract containing over 300 acres of land under water. The charter provided that this tidal area might be filled in and built upon by the Mayor, Aldermen, and commonalty of the City, as to them should seem fit. This was the first important encroachment on the harbor. The Dongan Charter, granted to the City Fathers in 1686, empowered them to build docks and wharves to low-water mark only. In 1790 the Legislature granted to the City the lands around Fort George and the Battery for public uses, and in 1821 this grant was further augmented by 600 feet, extending into the waters of the bay, the same to be filled in and laid out for walks for the public benefit.

By an act passed April 3, 1807, a further extension of the City upon land covered by tidal waters was made, "on the shores of the Hudson River, contiguous to lands of the City from low-water mark, 400 feet out from Bestaver's Kill, or river, along the easterly shore to a distance of four miles north thereof, (that is to about Seventy-fifth street,) and along the westerly shore of the East River from the north side of Corlear's Hook, (near the present Houston street,) two miles north, to about Fortieth street, extending 400 feet into the river from low-water mark." This grant covered about 290 acres, thus making the total encroachments—excluding the Battery extension of 600 feet—about 500 acres taken from the harbor. By the law passed in February, 1826, this belt of 400 feet beyond low water, on each side of the island, was extended to Spuyten Duyvel Creek, on the Hudson River, and to Harlem River on the east side. The Montgomerie charter and subsequent grants, continuing the line below low-water mark, established no datum line, and as a consequence the 400-feet line followed the sinuosities of the shore on each side of the island, and caused much annoyance and inconvenience and no little encroachments. The act of 1807, however, empowered the Commissioners appointed thereunder to establish a permanent boundary line along each shore. In laying out this line very little regard was had for the natural course of the shore, and, as a consequence, extensive tracts were inclosed. The exterior line on the East River to Eleventh street was laid out as Avenue D; to Fiftieth street the line was represented by First avenue, and thence to Seventy-third street Avenue A formed the boundary line on the East River. On the Hudson, up to Thirty-fourth street, Tenth avenue was made to represent the exterior line; Eleventh avenue was projected and continued to Seventy-seventh street, and Twelfth avenue, to One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street, was further pushed into the Hudson, so that in some places the 400-feet belt was covered with streets, and no allowance made for wharves. In 1826 the exterior line was changed by legislative enactment, by which East and Tompkins streets were further run out into the East River. So changes were going on from time to time, the shore line, streets, and boundaries being pushed into the streams at each side, until in 1850 the shore was advanced out from 105 to 2,400 feet on the East River beyond the original 400 feet.

The gradual encroachment on the Hudson in the neighborhood of Dey and Vesey streets alone was carried to such an extent as to deprive the City of an area of dock accommodation sufficient to provide for the wants of 30,000 tons of shipping. This space, covering about five acres, on which West Washington Market had been built, was claimed by the State Government as lying beyond the 400 feet line, but instead of having the encroachment removed, as an obstruction to navigation, the Commissioners of the Land Office in Albany, while the claim was pending, leased the encroachment to two citizens. When the names of the lessees are known, and the result of the subsequent proceedings seen, it is easily explained how the matter was engineered. The lease was given to James B. Taylor and Owen Brennan, is dated April 24, 1858, for a period of two years, and was subsequently renewed. In the interim, the City Fathers had disposed of their rights in the property, so that to fulfill their engagements they were compelled to purchase the interest of the lessees. The transaction cost the citizens about $1,000,000, which could have been avoided had the corporation properly discharged its delegated trust, and prevented the perpetration of a wrong upon the public rights of the citizens.

The riparian owners on the East River, between Thirteenth and Eighteenth streets, filled in the foreshore exterior to the 400-feet line, and beyond the State line. This "land hunger" of private individuals was allowed to proceed, unchecked and unchallenged by the City or State authorities to the permanent damage of the harbor. The rapacious grasping of public property, which, like an epidemic, had seized on the City under late régimes, caused the owners of the upland bordering on the tidal highway—known in legal parlance as riparian owners—to disregard the boundaries fixed by the law of 1807, and subsequent acts amendatory thereof. It ceased to be thought of, and each owner, following the example of the trustees of the public, did pretty much as he pleased with the line of the foreshore. The Chamber of Commerce of New-York finally came to the rescue, and their exertions were mainly instrumental in saving the harbor from destruction. A petition from that body to the Legislature resulted in the passage of "An act for the appointment of a commission for the preservation of the Harbor of New-York from encroachments, and to prevent obstructions to the necessary navigation thereof." This board, afterward known as the Board of Harbor Commissioners, was judiciously selected, and one of their most important public acts was the appointment of an Advisory Board, sanctioned by the Federal Government, of three of the most eminent scientific gentlemen of the country, viz., Prof. A. D. Bach, Superintendent of the United States Survey; Gen. Joseph G. Totten, Chief Engineer of the United States Army, and Commander (now Admiral) C. H. Davis, United States Navy. Under the direction of the Harbor Commissioners a survey of the then existing encroachments, so far as they could be ascertained, was made by the members of the Advisory Board, and a report drawn up showing the result of their investigations. The Harbor Commissioners meantime were not idle, and while the scientific gentlemen were making their survey of the waters and harbor, a searching inquiry had been instituted by the Commissioners into the extent of the trespass on the tidal waters. The result far exceeded their expectations. In their report of Jan. 29, 1857, they state:

"In direct violation of the act of 1807, (establishing the first datum line as to the 400 feet,) which made the map of the Commissioners then appointed to lay out the City final and conclusive—in face of the uniform practice of the City authorities to apply to the Legislature for permission to vary the plan of the City when deemed desirable, and, notwithstanding the provisions of the act of March 20, 1855, which, in express terms, forbids the grant of land under water until the further direction of the Legislature, the Common Council in December last laid down an exterior line from Rivington street to Thirty-eighth street, East River, far beyond the limits assigned by the Legislature, and authorized and directed the owners of the adjacent uplands to fill in to the line designated, by the 1st of January, 1860. Nor was the ordinance passed in ignorance, either of the laws or the destructive effects which its fulfillment would have upon the navigation of the river, but in disregard of both."

The Commissioners declared its effect upon the navigation of the harbor as "ruinous," and remonstrated against the encroachment, yet the ordinance was adopted by both Boards of the Common Council and approved by the Mayor. This line extended 904 feet at the widest point of divergence beyond the bulk-head line, and 568 feet exterior to the pier-head line established by the Commissioners. By this encroachment under City authority the channel was narrowed to 518 feet

Acting on the report of the Commissioners and the suggestion contained therein, a law was passed in April, 1857, under which a permanent pier and bulkhead line was established. In 1860 an act was passed "to prevent encroachments and obstructions in the Harbor of New-York, and to authorize their removal and correct the Harbor Commissioners' lines." Under this law the Pilot Commissioners, a body composed of private citizens, serving without salary in the interest of commerce, were empowered to exercise general supervision over the harbor, and preserve its outline in accordance with established boundaries. The last mentioned act provided that it "should not be lawful for any person to build, erect, or maintain any pier, bulk-head, or other structure, or to fill in with earth or other material, in the waters of the Harbor of New-York, beyond the exterior line defined and recommended by the Commissioners for the preservation of the Harbor of New-York." After some years of usefulness, in the course of which they removed many abuses and encroachments, most notably the huge pier pushed into the Hudson at the Battery by Vanderbilt, fighting the capitalist from the courts below to the Court of Appeals, beating him at each hearing—their sphere of operations was contracted by the infamous Tweed charter of 1870. Under that enactment the Dock Commissioners were empowered to push the City still further into the water, to the extent of seventy-five feet on the East River and 115 feet on the Hudson.

The encroachments on the East River at Brooklyn kept pace with those on the New-York side. The charter of Queen Anne, 19th April, 1708, known as the Cornbury charter, granted to the Corporation of New-York "all vacant, unappropriated ground, from high to low water mark, between Wallabout and Red Hook Point." Since then various letters patent have been issued by the State to individuals of land under water on the Long Island shore. Under shadow of these grants various trespasses on the water-way were made. In 1871 an act was passed by the Legislature authorizing private citizens in the vicinity of Fulton Ferry to advance their wharves about 150 feet at a point where the river is only 1,300 feet wide, the result of which has been that the current has largely increased—about 4.8 miles an hour—a velocity against which all crafts are powerless, and by which vessels of all descriptions are embarrassed. The ferry-boats are whirled about in it at such an amazing rate, and compelled to zigzag themselves across the stream in such an extraordinary manner, that it is a matter of wonder there are not more casualties. Vessels cannot now be docked at that part of the river unless at slack water. Against these encroachments action was taken by the Pilot Commissioners, and reports from competent engineers sustained their opposition to the proposed further extension of piers and stone wharves from the Brooklyn shore. Mr. Mitchell, of the Tidal Department of the United States Survey, stated to the Commissioners: "I need not remind you that ever since these lines (of the harbor) were drawn, the conviction has grown upon us that the East River, more than any other portion of the harbor, holds a peculiar relation to the channels over the bar; that it is the tidal circulation which the East River admits that gives the New-York entrance at Sandy Hook its superiority over that of any other barred harbor of the Atlantic coast."

Gen. Humphreys, Gen. Newton, and other scientific engineers gave their views on the subject, and condemned the proposed works as destructive to the proper navigation of the river. Notwithstanding the determined opposition of the Pilot Commissioners, and against such strong expressions of opinion as to the effect of the works, the act was passed, and now, in the words of Mr. Blunt, Superintendent under the Commissioners, the East River is being gradually converted into a mill-sluice.

The influence of the encroachments on the Hudson River is found in the diminution of the tidal flow up as far as Newburg, and a diminution in the back-water to Albany, one result of which is observed in the increasing shoals, which threaten soon to make the Upper Hudson unnavigable, unless to small craft. Most noticeable of the obstructions to this stream are the terminus and works of the Pennsylvania and other railroads, extending a considerable distance into the river. Works are now in course of construction at the terminus of the Pennsylvania Line which will, when completed, consist of three piers and wharves, extending 500 feet by 80 feet into the water. The American Dock and Improvement Company—a company having for its object the reclamation of all the Jersey flats, and the erection of a city with docks and shipping accommodation to rival New-York—has inclosed a large tract of the flats between the works of the Central Railroad, of New-Jersey, and Cavan Point, but in view of the trespass of the latter company the encroachments of the former are trifling. The Central Railroad wharf projects from the shore into the stream no less than 4,000 feet. It is the first serious diversion of the current of the Hudson, and causes an amount of silt to accumulate from the extremity of the pier to beyond Bedloe's Island. To such an extent has this deposit been increasing, that the channel near the latter island, where some years ago vessels of the largest tonnage could pass, has become shoaled to from ten to twenty-four feet. Off Ellis' Island, in addition to the continuous bank from the wharf to beyond Bedloe's, a bank has been formed out in the stream, which reduces the depth of water by twelve feet. In fact, the channel between the flats and Governor's Island is gradually being closed. At the wharf of the Central Railroad the ebb tide of the Hudson is turned and forced across to the Battery, there to meet the current of the East River, where the great volume of the silt of the two streams is deposited. A large shoal has been formed on the east side of Governor's Island, and from South Ferry to Atlantic Dock, this shoal has increased from two to ten feet in some parts. The Federal Government has offered to dredge it if the City Government would prevent the discharge of refuse and coal-ashes from steamers into the river. This latter nuisance has been carried on to an alarming extent. Mr. Blunt, who has kindly supplied many of the facts in this notice, stated to a TIMES reporter that in two nights no less than 3,000 loads of City refuse were thrown into the harbor by the Street-cleaning Bureau, and in this work of obstructing the rivers the Dock Commissioners were not slow to follow the example of the bureau. The writer was shown a quantity of soil taken from the bank, below Bedloe's Island, on which the ocean steamer Greece, lately stranded, and found to consist solely of small cinders and coal refuse.

Part of the shoal off Governor's Island has a layer of this deposit two feet thick. At Hell Gate alone the surface dredging carried on by the United States Government is being rapidly replaced by ashes from the passing steamers. With regard to the lower bay, it has been stated on authority that in the main ship-channel there has been an actual deposit in twenty years of 2,532,600 cubic feet of sand

Such, in general terms, is the history of the encroachments on the ancient waterways of the harbor, and their results, combined with the cupidity of the riparian owners, and the willful negligence, if not criminality, of the departments intrusted with the interests of the public. Though the rights and duties of New-York and New-Jersey were fully defined by treaty of 1833, entered into between the two States for the protection of the Hudson, both parties have allowed its provisions to remain a dead letter. It is, however, anticipated that the action recently taken by Gov. Dix will cause some vigorous measures to be adopted to remedy this growing evil during the coming session of the Legislature. If the subject does not receive the attention which its importance demands, measures will be taken to enlist the action of the Federal Government, in which the title to tidal highways is vested.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH BY POISON.

Mr. Samuel Pendleton, of Wallingford, Conn., was almost instantly killed on Thursday evening by an accidental dose of poison. A few friends had been passing the evening with his family, and were about going home, when Mr. Pendleton asked his wife to get some grape wine made last Summer. She reminded him that he had put it down in the cellar, and he started to get it. He went in the dark and brought out a demijohn, got a glass and tasted the contents, and instantly called to his wife to give him some acid to counteract the poison. In less than five minutes he was dead. Mr. Pendleton was a silver-plater, and the poison was a silver solution containing cyanide of potassium.

THE BALL SEASON.

ENTERTAINMENTS TO COME—NOT NUMEROUS, BUT SELECT.

The ball season has now fairly opened, and there is every reason to believe that the number of balls given will fall far behind that of last year. The late financial troubles have undoubtedly exercised a marked influence over the mass of pleasure-seekers. The experiences of the past few months have induced more careful habits and economical action on the part both of private individuals and associations. That such is the case has been exemplified in the entertainments that have already taken place at the principal halls. Not only has the attendance been considerably smaller than at similar reunions of previous years, but the amount of money spent by the guests has also shown a remarkable difference, much to the disappointment and chagrin of the proprietors of the halls. These are one and all complaining of the dullness in this regard at present existing, and likely to be continued throughout the season. The number of political balls to be given during the next few months, so far as has yet been announced, is exceedingly small, and show a marked falling off compared with the time when Tammany politicians and the "Ring" were in the full zenith of their power and glory. Then it was sought by each and every leader to increase the number of his following by means of such gatherings, where he could make ostentatious public display and lavish his doubtfully-acquired money. Since the sources from which their supplies were drawn have been cut off, these heads of political associations have been compelled to retire into comparative private life and confine themselves to entertaining their henchmen in the corner liquor stores. The more expensive public halls, where they had formerly shewed the largeness of their liberality by dispensing any quantity of Champagne and other costly wines, open to them no longer. This year there is to be no "Firemen's Ball," and the Baxter hop is also to be marked on the calendar among the records of the past. There will doubtless be little regret at the discontinuance of the latter, for even at the best of times the company was never of the choicest. It was generally a gathering of third-rate politicians and their wives and friends, whose principal objects seemed to be in an effort to outvie each other in the display of costumes combining bad taste with richness of material, and an exhibition of "diamonds"—paste or real—quantity without respect to quality being the one great object. With regard to the first-mentioned, there will undoubtedly be some unfeigned regrets at its discontinuance, for it was always well managed and largely attended by people who had for years been in the habit of making it a special duty to be present. In fact, the "Firemen's" Ball, as it was always termed, was more like a large private party than a public ball. It was, however, decided that the reunion of last year was to be the last. Although its day has passed, pleasant memories and happy associations connected with it will doubtless be often recalled and talked over.

The Arion Society ball is also to be discontinued this year. This society has for some years struggled for the palm against the Liederkranz. The magnificence of its masquerades, and the procession of last year, together with the richness of the costumes, will long be remembered. The society, however, has decided that that shall be the last effort in this direction, and will not undertake the expense and trouble of such representations in the future.

Among the principal balls announced to come off at the Academy this season, are the following:

On the 6th of January, the Seventh Regiment, N. Y. S. N. G., give a grand concert and hop, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the fund in aid of the poor of the City of New-York. Usually the profits have been expended in the purchase of uniforms, instruments, &c., for the band of the regiment. In view of the distress prevalent in the City this Winter, it has been decided to adopt the action above noted, in order to show their appreciation of the wants of their less-favored fellow-beings, and by this means to contribute toward the temporary alleviation of their sufferings. In view of this praiseworthy action, which deserves to be imitated by others, there is little doubt that the attendance will be large, and the result satisfactory. Already the applications for tickets are coming in from every quarter. Great care will be exercised in the issue of these cards of admission. There is every reason to expect that the company, who will certainly fill every nook and corner of the Academy, will be, as at all entertainments given by this favorite corps, most select. The programme will doubtless be such as to afford entire gratification. Boxes are announced to be sold by auction on Jan. 3 at 8 P. M. at the armory. On the night following, the seventeenth annual ball of the Young Men's Association, for the benefit of the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, will be held. This ball, which is considered one of the great events of the season, is certain to be well attended, and will, as it always does, draw to the academy the best society of the City. It is considered almost a point of duty by all the wealthiest of the Roman Catholics to be present, and assist in increasing, if possible, the prestige and success that have always attended the annual ball given in aid of this noble charity. The arrangements are under the direction of a committee of gentlemen well known in the community, which is, if such were needed, an additional guarantee that the undertaking will be unqualifiedly successful. The list of patrons includes the names of many eminent gentlemen.

The Twenty-second Regiment, N. Y. S. N. G., give their annual ball at the Academy on the 12th of January. This will be followed on the next night by the second annual ball in aid of the funds of the Infant Asylum. This will be one of the three great balls, and will undoubtedly be very numerously attended by the best people of New-York, and result in a much-needed addition to the funds of the charity in whose aid it is given. The list of patrons is unusually large this year, and headed, as it is, by President Grant, will exert a good influence upon the application for tickets.

The Manhattan Lodge, F. and A. M., give a ball on the 14th January. On the 15th the "Cercle Français de l'Harmonie" give their annual masquerade ball. This is one of a kind that could well be dispensed with. It is, however, to be hoped that as it is again to come off there will be an attempt, at least, made by the managers to secure something like the observance of the conventionalities that govern all well-regulated gatherings. The annual ball of the Matthew T. Brennan Coterie occurs on the 20th of January, and will, of course, possess the usual elements. Whether it will be so well attended as formerly remains to be seen, but from present indications it is thought, notwithstanding some defections in the ranks of the Sheriff's political followers, that the number of guests will be as large as usual. Honorable gentlemen who participated in previous entertainments of the coterie will not attend.

On the 5th of February will take place what is known as "the Charity Ball," and such is its popularity that there are no fears for its success. Any one once present at the Charity Ball is sure to go again. The Liederkranz Masquerade Ball takes place Feb. 12, and, inasmuch as the Arion Society, as previously mentioned, have decided to give no ball this year the Liederkranz will be the only *bal masque* at the Academy, either deserving of the name or worth attending. This society has always enjoyed an envied reputation for the character of its entertainments, as also for the care and trouble that are taken to exclude any undesirable persons. Among all the balls given from year to year the Liederkranz tickets of admission are most eagerly sought after. Of the arrangements for this ball, and the programme to be observed, it is impossible to speak at present, but every assurance is given that it will not be behind its predecessors in any way whatever, while the allegorical representations and procession will, it is thought, be even more happy and suitable to the times than ever.

Among the balls to take place during the season at other halls, must be mentioned that of the Hoboken Turtle Club at Ferrero's Assembly Rooms (Tammany Hall) on the 13th of January, the XXX on the 7th, and a ball in commemoration of the battle of New-Orleans on the 8th. All these will doubtless be numerously attended. The New-York Caledonian Club, so well known for the many exhibitions given under their auspices of Scottish games, hold their annual ball at the same hall on the 9th of January. This will be a very pleasant reunion, and is sure to be well patronized. All members of the club attending the ball are required to appear in full Highland costume. A pleasing and novel effect to the general appearance of the ball-room will thus be given, as the Highland lads mingle in the mazes of the dance with their fair lassies. Another attraction at this ball is the performance of a Scotch sword-dance, a Scotch reel, and Highland fling, the complications of which are only mastered by a native-born Scot, so varied and multifarious are the changes in time and step. The Bachelors' Club give their annual ball on the 26th at the same place, and anticipate a large gathering. The New-York Masquerade Club, whose balls are usually among the most agreeable of the year, have chosen Feb. 11 as their seventh season's reunion. As this is purely an invitation ball, admission can only be obtained from the members of the club, who take all possible care to insure against any obnoxious persons being allowed to enter. At Irving Hall, among the most notable entertainments to occur during the season may be mentioned the following: The Manhattan Turtle Club, annual reception and ball on Christmas night; the Private Coachmen's Benevolent and Charitable Society Ball, on the 6th of January; the Ball, Hop and Pleasure Club, on the 8th; the Heavy Weights, on the 15th; the Lincoln Union, on the 19th; the French Cooks, on Feb. 4; the Ancient Order of Elks, on the 5th of February, and the Americus Coterie on the 9th of March. The Seventy-ninth Regiment, N. Y. S. N. G., held their annual ball at their armory, in Twenty-third-street, last evening.

The following is a complete list of balls to come off, so far as is yet announced:

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Jan. 6—Seventh Regiment Concert and Hop.
Jan. 7—Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum Ball.
Jan. 12—Twenty-second Regiment Ball.
Jan. 13—Infant Asylum Ball, (second annual.)
Jan. 14—Manhattan Lodge, F. and A. M.
Jan. 15—Cercle Français.
Jan. 20—M. T. Brennan Coterie.
Jan. 12—Liederkranz Society Masquerade.

FERRERO'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS, (TAMMANY HALL.)

Dec. 25—F. Murray Association.
Dec. 29—Father Matthew Society.
Dec. 30—Myrtle Wreath Lodge, Knights of Pythias.
Jan. 7—XXX Ball.
Jan. 8—Ball in Commemoration of Battle of New-Orleans.
Jan. 9—New-York Caledonian Club.
Jan. 12—St. John Baptist Canadian Society.
Jan. 13—Ballinasloe Club.
Jan. 14—Journeymen Plumbers.
Jan. 15—Hoboken Turtle Club.
Jan. 16—Father Matthew Society No. 1.
Jan. 19—Flyaway Club.
Jan. 20—Ark Lodge, Odd-fellows.
Jan. 21—Joseph's Lodge.
Jan. 22—Herman Lodge, F. and A. M.
Jan. 23—Greenwich Coterie.
Jan. 26—Bachelors' Club.
Jan. 27—James Deguan Coterie.
Jan. 28—Private Coachmen's Benevolent Association.
Jan. 29—Cornucopia Lodge.
Jan. 30—Troop A—Cavalry.
Feb. 2—Independent Longshoremen.
Feb. 3—Gentlemen's Sons of Eleventh Ward.
Feb. 5—Dodge Express Company.
Feb. 6—Mohawk Tribe, Knights of Pythias.
Feb. 9—Matthew Skip Association.
Feb. 10—Manahan's Concert and Ball.
Feb. 11—New-York Masquerade Club.
Feb. 12—Amphrgnaer Club.
Feb. 13—Press Lodge, Knights of Pythias.
Feb. 16—Sparkling Coterie.

IRVING HALL.

Dec. 25—Manhattan Turtle Club.
Jan. 5—M. Cregan Association.
Jan. 6—Private Coachmen's Charitable Society.
Jan. 7—Kinnich Benevolent Association.
Jan. 8—Ball, Hop and Pleasure Club.
Jan. 12—Occidental Club.
Jan. 13—Hope Pleasure Club.
Jan. 15—Heavy Weights.
Jan. 16—Adams Express.
Jan. 19—Lincoln Union.
Jan. 21—Excelsior Lodge.
Jan. 28—Mount Nebo Lodge.
Feb. 4—French Cooks.
Feb. 5—A. O. Elks.
Feb. 6—Friendship Social Club.
Feb. 19—Ball, Hop and Pleasure Club, (calico.)
March 9—Shanghai Club, (calico.)
March 9—Americus Coterie.
March 17—Non-Commissioned Officers Sixty-ninth Regiment.

A SOUTHERN LAWYER TAKEN FOR A COUNTRYMAN.

Mr. Calhoun Blank, of Columbia, S. C., came to New-York a few days ago and put up at the United States Hotel. On Monday evening he started to go to Mr. Daly's new theatre. On passing through Fulton street, on his way, he met a very nice-looking gentleman, who, after a moment's hesitation, advanced with outstretched hand, and said: "Why, Mr. Blank, how do you do? How are the folks in Columbia?" "How do you do, Sir," replied Mr. Blank, "but you must excuse me for not calling your name, I do not remember you. Why, don't you remember Harry Stevens? In the telegraph office, you know. How are Howard and Cathcart?"

Now it so happened, that during the war Mr. Blank had been in the Telegraph Bureau, and he thought he might have met the gentleman before, especially as the names he mentioned were those of two gentlemen well known in Columbia. So Mr. Blank told him where he was going, and the gentleman was so well pleased at meeting his old friend that he must needs go with him, and so they went up Broadway together. When they arrived in the neighborhood of the St. Nicholas Mr. Stevens remembered that he had a lottery ticket in his pocket, which had won a prize. "If you will be kind enough to wait for me," said he, "I will rejoin you in a minute." "Don't be long," said Mr. Blank, "for it is cold out here." "Come up with me, then," said Stevens, and Mr. Blank went up. They entered an elegantly-furnished room, in which there was a large table, with an open newspaper lying on it. They found four or five elegantly-dressed men, with dyed mustaches, lounging around, and one particularly villainous looking fellow sitting at the table. Stevens presented his ticket and was told his number had drawn $101, which sum the villainous-looking gentleman counted out to him, less $1, for which he was given a red card. "This card you can play here, if you choose," said the man, removing the newspaper and discovering a sort of a checker-board, with numbers painted on the squares. "You put your card on any one of these numbers, and throw the dice. If the number you throw, added to the number you have chosen, equals any one of these marked with a star, that will be the amount you will win."

Mr. Stevens tried his luck, and won $9 and two red cards, and was therefore entitled to two more throws. He threw again and won; again, and lost. He then gave Mr. Blank two of his cards, and asked him to throw for him, all of which he did with varying success, but Mr. Blank played cautiously, for he did not understand the game. Stevens, on the contrary, rushed blindly on to his fate, and within a very few moments lost nearly all he had. He turned to Mr. Blank for consolation, but he was almost as badly off as he was himself. He had no money, and only two cards, one of which was not available, as it was "in chancery." Mr. Blank did not know how this extraordinary state of things had been brought about, and every time he tried to inquire into it he was met by so many explanations on the part of the other gentlemen present that he was completely mystified. However, he understood that, being "in chancery," meant that the dealer was not entitled to take his card, and was compelled to put up $9 on the same number, and that he, (Mr. Blank,) by putting up $9 more, could have the privilege of throwing for it. Stevens urged Blank to put up. Blank declined. Stevens grew reckless and drew on his reserve. He threw. Again in chancery. Another throw. In chancery still, with $30 in the pot, and Stevens had no more money to put up. With a groan of despair he acknowledged he was "broke." Would not his friend, Mr. Blank, put up and win the money. "Let's go to the theatre," said Mr. Blank, very decidedly. "I never play at a game I don't understand."

More explanations from the other gentlemen. Mr. Blank was determined.

"Take a drink before you go, gentlemen," said the proprietor.

"I never drink," said Mr. Blank.

The despairing Stevens and the imperturbable Blank were once more in Broadway.

"I haven't got a cent in my pocket," said Stevens.

"A very bad fix to be in," said Blank.

"I can't go to the theatre or anywhere else without money," sighed Stevens. "Very true," replied Blank. They walked up Broadway. "Mr. Stevens," said Mr. Blank, "where did you live when in Columbia?"

From Stevens' description, Mr. Blank was enabled to satisfy himself that Stevens had lived on a block on which a church now stands.

"Mr. Blank," said he, "what a pity it is that our friend Cathcart's health is so bad."

Stevens said yes, that it was a pity, and that he was afraid that Cathcart would never be a well man again. "And Howard," continued Mr. Blank, "he is such a good fellow. How sad it is that he should be of such a gloomy disposition." Stevens again assented.

"And now, Mr. Stevens," Mr. Blank went on, "as I am convinced from your replies that you never lived in Columbia, and that you do not know my friends, one of whom weighs 180 pounds, and is the picture of health, and the other the personification of genial good humor, I am compelled to decline any further acquaintance with you. You had better go and look for other game."

HELP FOR POOR CHILDREN.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY,
NO. 19 EAST FOURTH STREET,
NEW-YORK, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1873.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

We have received various generous and kind gifts from friends of the poor children, in consequence of your appeal. But, as the givers generally desire their donations not to be public, we have acknowledged them privately. Several thousand poor or homeless children will have one bright day in a not very happy year, through the kindness of the fortunate; many hundreds will have warm clothes and shoes and stockings for the Winter. To-day, nearly a hundred will go to homes in the West.

A pleasant experience this year has been that so many children of the fortunate classes have given their little Christmas presents to the unfortunate children. If parents did but know it, the best of all gifts to their own children is the habit of feeling with the poor. We earnestly hope that our friends will attend some of our numerous festivals for these children.

C. L. BRACE, Secretary.

We append a few characteristic letters:

DEAR SIR: My little daughter Katie sends you her savings, ($1 50,) to feed or shoe some little girls the coming Winter. Please acknowledge to my care, at B. & K.'s, No. 14 Wall street, and oblige very truly yours,

H. K.

Deo datus. The first money received in a new start in the later days of a busy but not successful life, ($6.)

TARRYTOWN, Dec. 16, 1873.

DEAR SIR: I am a little girl five years old. I have saved a dollar, and I would like to send it to the Children's Aid Society, to give one poor little child dinner for a month. I feel very sorry for the poor little children that have no home, and wish that they could be as happy as I am. I do not know how to write yet, so my mamma has written this note for me. My name is

MARIE B. A.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1873.

DEAR SIR: The other day I read from THE TIMES to my little girl Dora, (five years old,) the letters of children donating to the children of the poor. She sends $5.

M. L.

THE VIRGINIUS.

THE SURRENDER OF THE VESSEL AND HER PASSENGERS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Monday, Dec. 15, 1873.

Since my last letter events have followed each other so rapidly that we look at each other with astonishment, and can hardly understand the position, so wonderfully has it changed. I will endeavor to retrace all that has happened in a narrative form as completely as my means of information will permit me. On Tuesday evening last, the 9th inst., the Juniata returned into the Harbor of Santiago de Cuba, and I immediately called upon Commander Braine, who frankly communicated all that he could. He said that when he arrived for the first time in the harbor he at once claimed to see all the prisoners and to supply their wants. He claimed this in the interests of humanity. Morales, who had succeeded Burriel in the command of the city, declined to permit this, and pointed out to him that Commander Cushing had only made a demand for the Americans, as the Captain of the Niobe had for the English, and the French commander of the Kersaint for the French. Morales said that he had refused them, and that he must also refuse Capt. Braine. But the latter objected to any such distinctions, and claimed the privilege of visiting all who were in the jail or the hospital who had been in the Virginius. For she had hoisted American colors, and the Stars and Stripes, therefore, would protect all. To this text he stuck so tenaciously that he positively shook the grit out of Morales, and he consented to his visiting the Americans and giving them whatsoever assistance they needed. Capt. Braine went to the jail, accordingly, and saw that the prisoners were properly fed and clothed, which had not been the case before his visit. Morales had weakened so completely under the constant protests of Capt. Braine, that he actually sent away his prisoners secretly by night in the Bazan war-steamer to Havana. When this was discovered, on the Juniata's return, the commander at once sent a most indignant protest to Morales for this *evasion*, as he characterized it. The Spanish Governor endeavored to pacify him by assuming ultra cordiality in his manner, but Braine refused to meet him on friendly terms, keeping their relations within a strictly official complexion. Morales urged that what he had done had simply been in obedience to superior orders, and seemed hurt that he should have been accused of evasion. Upon this news being circulated abroad, the Niobe and the French steamer immediately sailed for Havana to be near the prisoners, the English Captain saying nothing, save that he distrusted the bloodthirsty character of the Spaniards, and feared for the lives of the prisoners. I believe Capt. Braine had some dreads of this character. The French Captain, however, was loud in his expressions of rage, and characterized the affair as an infamous trick. With regard to the nationality of the victims, I think the Spanish must insist upon regarding as British subjects all who were born in her dominions, for there is no mention, as far as I can learn, of Irish, and yet of the fifty-three shot, twenty are said to be English. I feel sure upon examination they will be proved to have been Irish-Americans.

Capt. Braine so strongly remonstrated with Morales concerning this evasion that he was forced to compel the Captain of the Bazan to surrender one of the prisoners whom he had taken into his service. He was a bright mulatto boy of about fourteen years of age, and was perfectly satisfied with his new condition. But Morales actually sent him to join the other prisoners at Havana, dispatching him specially in the gun-boat La Cuba Española, so great was his dread of the tenacious Captain of the Juniata. His very soul was sick within him, and he positively wrote a private unofficial note to Capt. Braine, asking him as a favor not to send him any more protests or remonstrances. But his misfortunes were not to stop here, it seems, for Jovellar was so indignant at the prisoners being sent away from Santiago de Cuba that he immediately ordered them back by telegraph from Cienfuegos, when the steamer touched there. The prisoners were to land at this point, and to proceed by railway to Havana. But they never disembarked even, and were whirled back to Santiago, to be there handed over to the inexorable Captain of the Juniata. There is no doubt that for some time back the Spanish authorities have been desirous of handing them over secretly, for Morales intimated as much to Capt. Braine, but that sterling sailor scouted the idea. Whatever was done must be done publicly and officially, he declared, and the Governor's face, which had been full of hope, at once clouded and became despondent. Jovellar has sent back Burriel to relieve him, so that the cup of his disgrace may be said to be full.

When I found that the commanders of the Niobe and the Kersaint considered this evasion of the prisoners so grave that they thought it necessary to at once leave for Havana, I considered it best for me also to follow the prisoners and ascertain their fate. So I left Santiago for Cienfuegos on the following day, and remained in blissful ignorance of the turn events had taken until I reached my place of destination. For although we touched at four ports on the way, none of them had telegraphic communication with the capital, or with Cienfuegos, which is the railway centre of the south part of the island. And having learned the great news it was impossible to return to Santiago de Cuba, which can only be reached by two lines of steamers, the North Line, touching at Matanzas, &c., and the South Line, from Batabano, touching at Cienfuegos. So I resolved to push on to Havana. And at Matanzas, within three hours of that place, I found that the whole matter was in a fair way to be settled, for the Virginius had left the harbor to be delivered up to some one of our vessels authorized to receive her. I made no stay at Matanzas, but came straight through, and found everything serene at the headquarters of the volunteers. I saw at the hotel where I stopped the North-German Consul General Herr Zach, and learned from him that Jovellar had completely triumphed. Jovellar saw the Colonels of the different volunteer regiments, the leading orators, and the chief Spanish lawyers. He placed before them the whole facts of the position, and called on them for support. To their honor be it said, they gave it him in the fullest degree. The watchword of the hour was, "Order, in the name of our country," and they exerted themselves in the fullest manner to prevent any demonstrations. On Friday morning the Virginius was quietly taken out of the harbor round to Bahia Honda, a small but secure port some forty miles from Havana, and about ten hours' steaming distance from Key West, to be there delivered to any vessel authorized by the United States Government to receive her. The Consul General here telegraphed the fact to Rear Admiral Scott, and received an answer back that he had been duly notified by the Navy Department. Since then we have heard nothing. But, on Friday night, a considerable mob, not of volunteers, but of Spaniards generally, especially partisans of Don Carlos, Don Alfonso, and of the Intransigentes, assembled in front of the Captain General's palace, and began a demonstration by uttering disloyal cries. Jovellar sent the Police to drive them out, and they retired without further fuss. The principal newspapers here, the *Diario de la Marina* and the *Voz de Cuba*, made very light of the matter, and inculcate order and quiet as a patriotic duty of the highest importance. They impress upon their readers the fact that Spain is in real danger, and that no feelings of humiliation or wounded pride, however natural, can be permitted to interfere with one's duty to one's country. Under the Spaniard's grandiloquence there is a genuine grandeur of soul, as, under his ferocity, there is a true courage. His love for his country is undoubted patriotism, and his courtesy is no sham, but a genuine refinement of manner. There has been throughout this unfortunate affair a real desire to show Americans that their country is respected, and themselves honored. Herr Zach, the German Consul General, who has an opportunity of learning the true sentiments of the people here, says that while many of the lower classes have been greatly enraged, and would have been capable of any deed of violence, if they had been openly insulted by visible signs of Cuban sympathy, yet that the intelligent classes have been cordial throughout to our countrymen who did not obtrude their sentiments, and civil to those who did. As a matter of taste it seems to me that Americans ought not to boast of their sympathy for Cuba, in the presence of Spanish officers, or to call creoles generally coffee-colored sons of guns. This might seem self-evident to ordinary capacities, but I regret to say that there are not a few of our countrymen who do not comprehend this. It is a source of gratification to know that throughout this matter our Consul General here has preserved cordial relations with the authorities. He has represented facts without urging opinions, and has collected facts without adding coloring to them. He has neither flattered the Spaniards nor irritated them, and has, indeed, by a perfectly even tenor of conduct and conversation, preserved their affection without perfecting their esteem. People may think it easy to report facts without bias, but they are in error. It is difficult to report the most indifferent circumstance with perfect accuracy, and to report a matter in which all one's prejudices are aroused without swerving either to the right or the left is a judicial act of which very few are capable.

The prisoners ought to have arrived at Santiago de Cuba on the 12th inst., but it must be remembered that from eight to ten days must elapse before one can get an answer to a communication. Havana is at the north-west extremity of the Island, Santiago de Cuba at the south-east, and from Cienfuegos in the south, half way between the centre and the west, there is no other communication save what I have mentioned previously. Therefore I cannot write that the affair has been consummated. For the same reason I can give you no intelligence of a reported insurgent victory near Bayamo, that is to say in the mountain region east of Manzanillo. But the rumor goes that a whole Spanish column of 400 men was surprised and cut to pieces. I am satisfied it is false. There is a force of rebel Cubans in that neighborhood amounting to 2,000 men, very few of whom are armed with rifles, or, indeed, with fire-arms. Those are the same who attacked Manzanillo. It was reported that they had sacked and burned the town; but from positive observation and information, gleaned on the spot, I learned the utter falsity of the statements. The Cuban rebels are brave and hungry and lost everything, having nothing to lose. So they are eternally upon the war-path, endeavoring to pillage small towns, or even large. They hold impregnable positions among the mountains, some of which, rising to a height of 7,000 feet, present the most frightful precipices and gorges. There are passes here which cannot be taken; and here the Cubans will remain, in spite of all efforts to dislodge them. But they will by degrees be hemmed in closer and closer, until they will be shut out from the neighborhood of civilization. Then commerce will be restored, and Santiago will rise again. At present its commerce is paralyzed.

GAR.

PENNSYLVANIA.

THE COMPLETE OFFICIAL VOTE BY COUNTIES ON THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

The following is the complete official vote of Pennsylvania by counties, on the new Constitution, at the special election held Dec. 16:

Counties.	For.	Against.	Counties.	For.	Against.
Adams	637	2,461	Juniata	931	639
Allegheny	13,315	1,895	Lancaster	8,102	4,447
Armstrong	2,456	1,017	Lawrence	2,508	223
Beaver	3,037	1,159	Lebanon	1,576	1,849
Bedford	2,211	774	Lehigh	3,072	1,897
Berks	9,114	1,866	Luzerne	5,689	2,501
Blair	1,782	2,248	Lycoming	3,814	1,747
Bradford	4,340	1,193	McKean	1,093	64
Bucks	4,445	2,935	Mercer	3,890	2,104
Butler	3,377	496	Mifflin	1,590	376
Cambria	1,972	1,813	Monroe	1,640	381
Cameron	419	50	Montgom'y	6,354	2,959
Carbon	1,747	609	Montour	1,065	134
Centre	2,411	1,077	North'm'ton	3,245	2,581
Chester	5,630	797	Northum'ld	3,170	1,681
Clarion	2,287	945	Perry	1,491	1,916
Clearfield	1,425	1,222	Philadelp'a	59,114	24,994
Clinton	2,374	161	Pike	668	63
Columbia	2,308	784	Potter	549	617
Crawford	5,608	841	Schuylkill	6,156	2,090
Cumberland	3,360	1,664	Snyder	408	2,336
Dauphin	3,119	4,032	Somerset	892	2,972
Delaware	1,866	797	Sullivan	584	197
Elk	592	229	Susqueh'a	2,973	331
Erie	6,624	742	Tioga	2,561	1,910
Fayette	2,727	883	Union	1,599	317
Forest	330	18	Venango	4,716	189
Franklin	2,904	1,273	Warren	2,487	128
Fulton	893	98	Washington	4,626	633
Greene	988	1,864	Wayne	1,560	257
Hunt'gdon	2,468	494	Westm'land	4,081	2,456
Indiana	1,599	3,152	Wyoming	1,756	125
Jefferson	1,396	912	York	4,514	3,051
Total				253,744	108,594
				108,594	
Majority for				145,150	

The following is a comparison of the vote on the Constitutions in 1838 and 1873, compared with the vote for Governor in the former year, and for State Treasurer in the latter year:

Year.	For.	Against.	Maj.	Total.
1838—Constitution	113,971	112,759	1,212	226,730
	Porter.	Ritner.		
1838—Governor	133,555	126,029	7,326	259,584
	For.	Against.		
1873—Constitution	253,744	108,594	145,150	362,338
	Mackey.	Hutchinson.		
1873—State Treas'r	244,823	219,471	25,352	464,294

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY OF A TRAIN.

An attempt was made on Thursday night last to wreck and rob the paymaster's car on the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Road. The Indianapolis *Sentinel* gives the particulars thus: "It was well known all along the line that Paymaster Fred. Lovett was out on the road, and everything calculated to catch the car at disadvantage. Having finished paying in this city, the train, consisting of a single car and engine, left the depot last evening and proceeded in safety until arriving in the neighborhood of Stockwell, about forty-seven miles from here. On leaving that town, Mr. H. S. Fraser, the freight agent at this city, who was on the car with Mr. Lovett, noticed a shaky movement, and before he could warn his friend or secure himself, the car pitched sideways and rolled over into the ditch. The occupants of the car at the time were Fred. Lovett, General Paymaster; Henry S. Fraser, General Agent; Wm. Vandegrift, Assistant Superintendent, and Conductor Kelly. The car was going at the rate of twenty miles an hour, when the engineer discovered that the switch was turned. He instantly reversed the engine and jumped; the fireman, who was at the moment putting coal in the engine, was not so lucky. He jumped also, but fell into a waste of water beside the track. The conductor fled the car, leaving the remaining occupants to stand the impending disaster. The escape of the engineer was almost miraculous. He leaped, fortunately, on the side of the track where the ground was almost flush with the road, instead of the side, which presented a bank nearly 150 feet in height. When he struck the ditch, he attempted to clamber up, but fortunately fell backward, and the engine rolling onward, missed striking him, as it would inevitably have done otherwise. The car lay helplessly in the mud, and the paymaster and friends were forced to stand guard over the money until morning, when a freight train and a wrecker relieved them. The night was bitter cold. Had the car jumped the track on the opposite side from that which it did, it would have been precipitated down the embankment. A man with a heavy beard—a common disguise with thieves and assassins—was seen to turn the switch a short time before, by a grocer, whose store is situated opposite the place where the accident occurred, but as the turning of a switch was a common occurrence, he thought nothing of it until the event happened."

THE KANSAS SENATORSHIP.

SPECULATIONS AS TO THE PROBABLE SUCCESSOR OF CALDWELL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ATCHISON, Kan., Dec. 20, 1873.

At present no one ventures an opinion as to who will be elected to fill the vacancy occasioned by United States Senator Caldwell's resignation. Some half-dozen prominent candidates have been brought forward, whose chances seem to be about equal. Gov. Osborn's fitness and strength are discussed with more animation than those of any other candidate, his public position and appointment of Judge Crozier as temporary incumbent, inviting, of course, more comment than naturally attaches to other candidates. The gentleman who has just taken his seat for a few weeks is a man whose personal character is above reproach, and so far the great mass of the people are content, when they contrast him with too many other of Kansas officials during the existence of our State; but he was Mr. Caldwell's attorney on the examination of his case at Washington, and, although it does not necessarily follow that mere professional services indicate sympathy with the cause of his client, there is no doubt that he is credited with very friendly relations to the Ex-Senator, and that Gov. Osborn has not strengthened his position by appointing him. Chief Justice S. A. Kingman is strongly urged by a large number of papers in the State, and being a man highly respected by nearly everybody in the State, and a lawyer of fine abilities, he promises to become a formidable candidate. I. S. Kalloch is in the list of entries for the race, but, although having many warm supporters, is not developing strength enough to warrant much confidence in his success. Ex-Gov. Harney is on his farm and does not seem to be making much of a fight, though he is understood to be a candidate. Ex-Representative Clarke is looking after his interests, but is undoubtedly unable to dislodge himself from the shelf, where he was laid by a dissatisfied constituency. Our Fall elections developed a disposition to afford the old politicians an opportunity to retire to private life, at least for a time, and it is not at all improbable that the Legislature may choose some new man, who is at present not known as an aspirant for Senatorial honors. State Auditor Wilder, whose first annual report is out, and in its exposure of extensive frauds on the part of his predecessor, as well as dereliction of duty by the present and preceding State Treasurers, is stirring the political caldron pretty lively, is also mentioned as a candidate by some of his admirers and friends, but is not understood to be making any special fight for the place.

The session of the coming Legislature is looked forward to with more than usual interest, the elements of reform in many ways being very confidently believed to compose an encouraging proportion of its composition. *Vis trita vis tuta* will not exactly apply to Kansas.

MR. MILL AND CHRISTIANITY.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I have always admired THE TIMES for the bold, fearless, and independent stand it has always taken in the cause of truth, justice, and humanity, and the able, intellectual, and fearless editorial in yesterday's issue, headed "The Late John Stuart Mill and Christianity," has not only sustained that admiration, but increased it. The editorial referred to deserves the highest credit and praise, as has many a one before it. It proves that you are not only the foremost champion in fearlessly exposing and bringing to justice those who are steeped in vice and crime, and linked in the "flesh and the devil," but also that you likewise fearlessly expose the false teachings and pernicious fallacies of those so-called "philosophers" who vainly attempt to denounce and deride the sacred history and teachings of our meek and suffering Savior, and, in fact, of the entire Christian religion. It would be foolish for me to add anything to your able article, for I confess my inability, my object in writing this letter being to show you that your continued efforts in the cause of truth, justice, and Christianity are read and appreciated, and I have no doubt and no hesitation in asserting that the article referred to has done more real, practical good than many a sensational sermon preached from the numerous sensational pulpits that disgrace our churches.

The false teachings and pernicious fallacies of John Stuart Mill are utterly useless, as has been the efforts of many gone before him, who, like him, denounced and derided the existence of a supreme being. The death-bed scene of many an infidel and skeptic has demonstrated this fact. Paine, Voltaire, Rousseau, and others, upon their dying bed, said in effect, if not in words, "the teachings and doctrines we professed were good enough to live by, but they were terrible to die by." What the death-bed scenes of the elder Mill or his son were I do not know, but if we could have penetrated the inmost secret chambers of their hearts and consciences, it is not too much to say the same terrible truth would have found ample and vivid demonstration. There can be no doubt but that the teachings and writings of such consummate and subtle masters of passionate eloquence and splendid dazzling fascinations as the French "philosophers" of 1791, and the late John Stuart Mill, exercise and wield a great influence over some people and create argumentative dissensions and strife, but that they have no solid foundation either in the light of reason or science, is sufficiently demonstrated by the continued growth and spread of the Christian religion and the gradual extinguishment of paganism and infidelity.

The Bible was intended to teach theology, and not science; to reveal what could never have been found out by reason, and to leave to reason its own peculiar province. If, therefore, by the powers of reason man has come to see greater beauties and a sublimer depth in the works and wisdom of God than have been revealed in his divine word, it seems very unjust and unreasonable to make use of this as an argument against the truth of revelation. God is the author of nature as well as of the Bible, and instead of setting up one in opposition to the other, we ought to follow the advice of an eminent divine, to learn to "trust God where we cannot trace him."

It is to be regretted that Christians have been frequently led into the error of attempting to establish the truth of Christianity upon a solution of such difficulties as those that occur in the Mosaic account of the creation. Science has already furnished us with several remarkable proofs of the truthfulness of the Mosaic account. We are told that on the first day God said: "Let there be light, and there was light," and afterward we find that the sun and moon were not created or made to shine until the fourth day. This apparently manifest contradiction has been reconciled by modern science, which proves that light exists independently of the sun, and must, of itself, have been an original and independent creation, and thus, from time to time will all the supposed inconsistencies and fallacies of the Bible and the creation be removed, and the dogmas which constitute the subject of religious controversies dwindle into insignificance. While from the difference of our natural capacities of mind, and from the force of our different educations and stand-points, we will inevitably have different and diverse opinions on some points of both natural and revealed religion, I think we can agree on the fundamental doctrine of all religions, which nature contributes to and revelation teaches.

"Know,
Without star or angel for their guide,
Who worship God shall find him."

OBSERVER.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 22, 1873.

THE BARINGS "EVERYWHERE."

Lord Houghton, in his monograph sketch of the late Lady Ashburton, mentions that she exclaimed, in reference to the wonderful influence of her husband's family, "They are everywhere." And, indeed, this statement is amply attested by the position of the family at the present time, which the recent death of Mr. T. Baring, who twice refused Cabinet appointments, and might have had a peerage, recalls. Two members of the family sit in the House of Lords, and one of these is Viceroy of India, while a third is Bishop of Durham. Nor is only the male portion of the family represented in the peerage, for the Duchess of Grafton and the Dowager Marchioness of Bath were also of the stock of these merchant princes. Since the passage of the first Reform bill no fewer than seven Barings have sat in the House of Commons.

One great secret of the success of this house has been that its members have stuck together. A Baring would make any sacrifice for a Baring. When dire disaster threatened the famous establishment in Bishopsgate years ago, Lord Ashburton was ready to fling his title deeds and the treasures of Bath House and the Grange into the scales to turn the balance in their favor. There is no such policy for a family which wants to "get on" to pursue as "to stick together."

A POLICEMAN ASSAULTED.

While patroling his beat in the Second ward of Jersey City, at an early hour yesterday morning, Officer Connolly observed a number of Second Ward roughs acting in a most suspicious manner. He ordered them away, when the party turned upon him and having knocked him down, beat him most severely. The officer called for assistance, and his calls were responded to by two other police officers. After a violent struggle, the officers succeeded in capturing four of the gang. Their names are Patrick, William, and Edward Flannery, and James Coughlan. Upon being taken before Justice Seymour, they were committed for trial. The men arrested were as severely cut and bruised in the melée as was Officer Connolly.

DEC 1873

CHINESE IN NEW-YORK.

HOW THEY LIVE, AND WHERE.

THEIR CLUB-HOUSES AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS—A CHINESE TEMPLE—PAGAN WORSHIP—CHINESE DOCTORS—OPIUM SMOKERS.

New-York numbers among its inhabitants some 500 Chinese, who occupy themselves and earn a livelihood by serving in hotels, club-houses, and on steam-boats as cooks and stewards, by the manufacture of cigars, and the sale of that peculiar preparation known as Chinese candy. Perhaps no other foreign emigrant to the shores of America clings so tenaciously to his national habits as does the Chinese. The wanderers from Great Britain, by reason of their similarity of language, are, after a year or two, hardly to be distinguished from native Americans. The Germans, too, although they retain their peculiarities for a longer time than the English, soon become acclimatized, and take kindly to American institutions. Even the Italians, who have more recently begun to seek a home in the New World, are rapidly developing traits which give evidence of their speedy transformation into good, industrious American citizens. The Chinese, on the other hand, always remain the same; no time seems to efface the memories which they cherish of their own land, and no contact with American life can alienate them from the peculiar vices, habits, and customs of the Celestial Empire. Although brought into daily intercourse with the English-speaking population of the country, they never learn the language fluently, and to-day there is scarcely one Chinese in New-York who can hold the most ordinary conversation in English. Foreign emigrants from other countries often marry American wives, establish themselves in respectable positions, and maintain comfortable households. The Chinese never do this; without any exception, they live together, in their own way, never mingling with their neighbors when it is possible to avoid doing so. They exist from hand to mouth, and never seem desirous of providing themselves with the means of life when their working days are over. One great peculiarity of Chinese emigration is that women seldom leave their native homes; and it is a remarkable fact that to-day there is not one Chinese woman in New-York.

Those who come to this City are in nearly every instance young men of the lower class, who were born in the large cities of the sea-coast. They have their homes in the worst hovels of the Fourth and Sixth Wards.

CHINESE CLUBS.

The 500 Chinese residents of this City have established two clubs or associations, on a mutual benefit basis. The largest of these is situated at No. 34 Mott street. It is called the Poolon Kun Cee, and has about fifty members. The society was recently established, and occupies the whole of the house mentioned. Upon entering the basement or reception-room of the club, at a little after dark, the scene is indeed a peculiar one. The room is nearly ten feet under ground, and could with great propriety be called a cellar. It is divided by a board partition into two apartments. The rear and smaller one of these is fitted up as a gaming-room. In one corner, and just beside a door, which opens into the dark and musty hall, is situated a long pine table. On this is a large kerosene lamp and innumerable small bits of colored wood.

At a recent visit to the club some twenty young men were found assembled round this table. They were all deeply engaged in playing what appeared to be the game of dominoes. The pieces, however, were of different colored wood, curiously marked and numbered, and were much more numerous than in the ordinary game. During a conversation with one of the players he stated that the game was called *Chaw Gue*, and was very popular among the Chinese. The same person, a very intelligent young man, some twenty-five years of age, conducted the writer all over the club-house. In the front basement the regular business meetings of the association are held. Its walls are decorated with a miscellaneous assortment of curiously colored and figured paper. One corner of the room was occupied by a large cooking-stove of the ordinary pattern. Two men were engaged at this in preparing a meal for some dozen others, who were anxiously waiting. What they were cooking is a mystery, only to be fathomed by the brain contained in some "becued" head. It appeared to be a mixture of all the vegetables and meats known to the City markets. The man who seemed to be the head cook first put about half a pound of lard in a monster frying-pan; his assistant in the meantime chopped up a large head of white cabbage, and as soon as the lard was melted threw it, and about half a dozen scraped carrots, into the pan. Salt and pepper were shaken profusely over this, and then came a layer of chopped meat. Cold boiled potatoes followed, the whole mess being supplemented by what looked like pulled codfish. The fumes that ascended from this peculiar cookery can be better imagined than described. In the south of Germany cloister *sour kraut* is famed for its strange odor, the Hartz mountaineers admit that their cheese smells badly, and the Bavarians do not deny that cheese-soup, with garlic, is not the most savory mess in the world, but the Chinese seemed very much offended when it was intimated that the smell of their kitchen was not very pleasant, and that the meal that was being prepared was likely to prove to those of a dyspeptic constitution slightly indigestible. One young man said, indignantly, "You think Chinese eat; no smell very good, but he taste, oh!" This was seconded by those who were waiting for their dinner.

The first floor of the club-house consists of three dark and badly-ventilated sleeping-rooms, into which are crowded no less than eleven beds, and which is supposed to accommodate twenty-two persons. Proceeding to the second floor, four small rooms were found. They were occupied by two or three youths, who were busily engaged in making cigars. In one of them a handsome but squalidly-dressed young white girl was lying upon a bed, apparently stupid from the opium fumes that filled the room. The man who conducted the writer was asked what the girl was doing in that peculiar place. He replied, with a horrible leer, "Oh, hard time in New-York; young girl hungry. Plenty come here. Chinamen always something to eat, and he like young white girl. He! he!"

The other club mentioned above is situated at No. 12 Baxter street. Its membership is not so large as that of its rival, nor are its apartments so commodious. During a conversation had with the old man in charge of the rooms, he stated that the objects of both clubs were to aid members in distress, and to extend a helping hand to young Chinese who might come as strangers to the City. It appears that many of the members are employed as stewards and waiters on board coastwise steamers; when they come to New-York they stop at either of the two clubs, paying an optional sum for the accommodation afforded them. Others, who are residents of the City, visit the club-room for conversation or to engage in the noisy national game. They also pay from twenty-five to fifty cents per week for this privilege. The funds of the clubs are, as well as could be ascertained, in the hands of a regularly elected Finance Committee, who, for a limited time, take upon themselves the entertainment of any Chinese who is without money and who has no home. Another object of the association is the burial of the dead. They say that they have a plot of ground at Green-Wood, and that indigent members are interred at the expense of the societies.

In a corner of the little dark room in Baxter street was a table, upon which a candle was dimly burning. Above it was a picture of a Chinese lad, surrounded by red satin paper, engraved with strange characters. The old man, in answer to a question, said, with touching pathos: "Ah! Chinee no great monument in marble. That good boy (pointing to the picture) he die! Chinese friends in big, strange land, for three months burn candle; make him a little memory here." It was ascertained that whenever it was possible, the dead bodies of Chinese were sent to their native land for interment; this, however, on account off the expense entailed is seldom done. On their arrival in this country most of the Chinese cut off their cue and send it back to China; the poor people believe that their souls, when they die, will fly to wherever their cue is.

A CHINESE JOSS-HOUSE IN NEW-YORK.

At No. 12 Baxter street, in the same house occupied by the society, is a Chinese temple dedicated to the worship of idols. In the midst of a great Christian City like New-York, the theatre of the last meeting of the Evangelical Alliance, it is very strange, but none the less true, that such an abode of idolatry exists. Here where Methodists can say no good word of Episcopalians, and where Baptists hold up their hands in holy horror at the doings of Congregationalists, where Catholics are continually seeking for supremacy, and German Lutherans are gradually but securely growing in strength, calmly in the darkest and most loathsome portion of the City does the Chinese worshipper pray to his heathen gods. He does not trouble himself about the religious belief of his neighbor, nor does he allow any interference with his own faith.

A preacher of one denomination out West objected to the amphitheatre style in which the church of another congregation was being built. "Why," said he, "it's just like a theatre, I can't approve of such worldliness." "What particular part do you object to?" was asked him. "To the floor, of course," he replied, "why, it is all built up hill and down; when I have a new church I'll have a smooth floor so that we can hold a social dance when necessary." Neither of these clergymen could find fault with the Chinese temple on account of elaborate decoration, or theatrical agrangement.

It is on the first floor of the house, and opens on the street. It is a badly-lighted, musty room, some twenty feet long by twelve wide. Facing the windows, and placed against the wall, is fixed a large stand, which serves as an altar; above this, and suspended from the ceiling, are two large Chinese lanterns. On the altar is placed one large kerosene lamp, which is kept continually burning; on either side of this are brass censers filled with earth; in these are stuck incense tapers, which are constantly smoldering, giving forth a not unpleasant odor. In front of the censers are two stuffed birds. This completes the altar paraphernalia. The temple itself is furnished with some six long benches, and is capable of seating about thirty persons. A stove is in the room, and when the writer visited it a large piece of bacon was on a toasting-fork crisping before the fire. The man in charge of the room was asked if the cooking of pork had any relation to the religious uses of the place. He shook his head, saying, "That Chinese secret; no tell." The walls and ceiling are blackened and grim with smoke and age, and filled with strange and heavy perfumes. The walls are decorated in places with variegated Chinese-printed paper. Most conspicuous is a huge picture of Buddha, his son, and the evil one, which is hung high over the altar, and to which the attendant bowed his head on entering.

Idolatrous worship is held in the temple three times a month by the Chinese as a congregation, and on these occasions a priest officiates; as individuals they visit the place for prayer at any and all times.

The Chinese are divided into three religious sects, following the creeds and tenets of Con-fow-tsze or Confucius, Lao-Kiun or Taon, and Foo or Buddha. The temple in this City is dedicated to the worship of the latter heathen divinity. The worship of Foo or Buddha was introduced into China some half a century after the Christian era; the sect was instituted by the Emperor Ming-ti, who dreamed upon three different occasions that the true God of earth was to be found in a certain part of India. He accordingly sent ambassadors to that country to seek for the divinity; they returned with the idol Foo, and many books and writings giving accounts of his life and doctrine, and descriptions of his advent into the world. The god Foo or Buddha is said to have been upon the earth many times. Upon the last occasion, and just before his return to his home above the clouds, he called all his followers around him, and promulgated his doctrine and religious creed in the following words: "The principle of all things is emptiness and nothing. From nothing all things proceeded and into nothing all things will return. This is the end of all our hopes."

The Buddhists firmly believe in the doctrine of the transmigration of souls, and that as a man conducts himself on earth he will become in the next stage of his existence a person of high rank, or an animal, reptile, or insect. A French writer, who for many years lived as a Roman Catholic missionary among the Chinese, relates that upon one occasion, when traveling in the Province of Chen-si, he was sent for to baptize an old man who was on the point of death. Upon entering the sick room he asked the old man what reason he had for wishing to join the Roman Catholic Church. His reply was that he had received a pension from the Emperor during the last ten years of his life, and that the bonzes, or priests of Buddha, of which sect he was a member, had assured him that when he was dead his soul would enter the body of a post-horse, and that it would be his duty to carry dispatches from one end of the empire to the other. As he had so long enjoyed the bounty of the Emperor, the priests had expressly enjoined him to do his duty well; not to stumble, start, nor bite; to run well and particularly not to eat much. If he did this, and was patient and docile, when his soul quitted the body he would become a Mandarin of the second button. "And now, father," said the dying man, "I do confess to you that the thought of being a horse is somewhat disagreeable; indeed, it makes me tremble. I dream of it every night, and sometimes I even think that I am harassed and that the rider urges me on with many lashes of his whip. I then awake in a great sweat, and tremble with alarm and concern, not being quite sure whether I am a horse or a man. If I suffer all this now what will become of me when I really am a horse? Good Father, people say that persons of your religion are not subject to miseries of this sort. That men continue to be the same in the next world, and that even at the very worst, when they are quite bad, they only have a leg or a foot burnt off before they are let into Heaven. Therefore, that I may not become a horse, I pray that you make me one of your church." To quiet the poor man's alarm he was baptized, and died soon after.

Another story, illustrative of the character of the Buddhist priests is told by the same writer: One day two "bonzes," or priests, of Foo seeing three large ducks in the court-yard of a rich peasant, prostrated themselves before the door and began to weep and sob bitterly, rocking themselves to and fro and throwing mud in their faces. The good-hearted woman of the house came out and asked them the cause of their lamentation, when one of them replied: "Oh, good woman, we know that the souls of our fathers occupy the bodies of two of those ducks, and cannot help lamenting the hard fate which awaits them should you determine to kill and eat them." The woman assured the priests that she would cherish the ducks, and that they should not be killed. This, however, did not satisfy them, and to quiet their sobbing, the woman gave them the fowls. That same evening thy ducks were roasted for the priests' supper. As stated above, it is to the worship of the god of which these men were priests that the temple in Baxter street is consecrated.

CHINESE DOCTORS.

Some time ago a Chinese doctor, professing to cure all manner of diseases, established himself on Fourteenth street, in this City, and for a considerable time enjoyed a very large patronage, many of the richest ladies of the City being among his credulous patients. After a while, however, on account of the refusal of the Custom-house authorities to admit the serpents, poisonous drugs, and revolting salves, which he attempted to import, and from other causes, he discontinued business.

A few days since a Chinese doctor arrived in New-York from New-Orleans, and is now living at No. 66 Cherry street. A visit was paid to him yesterday. He was found on the third floor of the house mentioned, and is the guest of a number of Chinamen who live there. They hold him in great esteem, and say that he has effected some very wonderful cures. The room in which he was seen is of small proportions, and is situated at the back of the house; it is occupied by seven or eight Chinese, and every evening is visited by numerous young white girls of the neighborhood. Three of them were found there last evening; none of the three could have been more than eighteen years of age, two of them were quite well-looking, but all of them sat side by side with greasy, loathsome, wrinkled, old Chinamen, and brazenly looked the visitor in the face. The "doctor" is a little man, about forty years of age. He was dressed in the proverbial Chinese costume, and, unlike most of his countrymen in the City, wore his cue bound in braids round his head. He stated that he had lived for some years in New-Orleans, and had been very successful there, many white persons being among his patients. He claims to be able to cure yellow fever at any stage of the disease. He comes to this city in the hope of establishing a practice here, and will furnish and open an office in a respectable locality as soon as his drugs arrive from San Francisco, to which place he has written for them.

Chinese doctors think that there is a close connection between the human frame and the heavenly bodies; they believe in the existence of two principles of life, which they call vital heat and radical moisture. According to their anatomy, the body is divided into three parts. Vital heat is said to be contained in the stomach, the gall, and the bladder, and they say that the principal necessity of eating is to keep warm; the moisture is confined in and is diffused through the body by the heart, liver, lungs, spleen, and kidneys. The drugs and medicines used by Chinese doctors are almost innumerable. Some of them are given in all cases of sickness, no matter of what character, and are claimed to be of remarkable efficacy. Stag's horns, made into powder, is always given in large quantities to persons suffering from pulmonary complaints. Oxides of copper, and other metallic medicines, are extensively used. Ginseng, with rhubarb, is given in nearly every case, and plasters and poultices of the most disgusting and offensive character are often placed all over the bodies of patients. It is also a practice to place a piece of raw meat, portions of bull's liver and half a chicken, on injured parts. Should any one, who usually enjoys good health, be suddenly taken sick with dizziness, pains in the eyes, or numbness of the extremities, the illness is ascribed to the evil influence of some of the seventy-two malignant gods, and immediate measures are taken to expel the wicked spirits.

Another belief prevalent in China is that sickness proceeds from bad gases which generate in the body. Dr. Bähr, the celebrated German physician, relates a case in which a Chinaman stuck a long needle into his abdomen, and then pressed the aperture to expel the foul gases, after the operation saying that he felt much better. Such cases often occurred. Another superstition in relation to the sick, is that the gods send illness to persons who are unable to pay for their exemption from disease, and it very frequently occurs that rich friends of a poor sick man make solemn promises to the gods of large sacrifices if the man recovers. A pleasing English writer on China relates that upon one occasion, when traveling in the interior, he was thrown from his horse and received a severe contusion on the head. When the Chinese doctor who was summoned arrived, the patient was ordered to sit up in bed. After he had done so the doctor placed a large basin of water, filled with blocks of ice, on the chair by the bed-side, and ordering him to strip to the waist, suddenly pulled his head over the basin and commenced to pour the ice-cold water over his neck. The pain at first was very great, but at length the gentleman was restored to full consciousness and recovered his clearness of sight. After the use of the ice water his head was bound with long cotton cloths, drawn tight by two men holding the ends. His head was then beaten with slathes of shingle-wood, to restore the brain to its proper place. He was next taken out of bed, almost without clothes, and, supported by two men, was made to walk in the open air. Suddenly, while in this condition, a basin of freezing water was thrown over his chest, which caused him to take a long, quick breath, and gave great suffering, as the breast was injured. The doctor informed his patient that he had thrown the water upon him to restore the ribs in case they had been harmed. The patient was then taken into the house, and his wound stuffed with burnt cotton. He was not allowed to lie down or sleep until 10 o'clock at night, and was kept in motion most of the time in order that the blood might not settle on his chest or his lungs. Before going to bed he was given a thin rice soup. This was all he was allowed to eat during the day, and, in his own words, "notwithstanding this I recovered."

The laws in China are very strict in relation to the practice of medicine. They provide that "whenever an unskilled practitioner in administering medicine, or using the puncturing needle, proceeds contrary to established forms, and thereby causes the death of the patient, the Magistrate shall call in other practitioners to examine the medicines used and the incision made, and if it appears that the injury done was unintentional, the doctor shall be treated under the law governing accidental homicides, and shall no longer be allowed to practice medicine. But if he designedly depart from established forms, and deceive in his attempts to cure malady, in order to obtain pay, he shall be treated as a thief, and if death ensue then he shall be beheaded." The Chinese frequently resort to the puncturing needle for the removal of tumors, &c., with which they are terribly afflicted. Powerful cosmetics are often applied with the same object, and sometimes result very seriously.

CHINESE BOARDING-HOUSES.

In the Fourth and Sixth Wards of the City there are situated three or four boarding-houses kept by Chinamen and fitted up for the accommodation of the Chinese. They are all so much alike that a description of one will convey an accurate idea of the rest. At No. 13 Mott street an establishment of the kind mentioned is conducted by a young man called Jon Asing. He has leased the entire and very large basement of the house, and furnished it in a manner which is no doubt agreeable to his peculiar customers, but which to an American mind certainly conveys no idea of comfort. The basement is divided by board partitions into six separate apartments. In the rear one the cooking is done and meals partaken of. It is furnished with a large cooking stove; a long wooden table, greasy, and covered with innumerable dishes; with two coarse wooden benches, and with a cupboard, the doors of which are of broken glass, and which contains a large variety of cracked cups, plates, saucers, and a rare assortment of chopsticks. The front apartment is used as a general reception-room. It contains a dilapidated sofa, some half dozen cane-bottom chairs in bad condition, and is hung round with the strangely colored and printed paper peculiar to the Chinese. The other four rooms are occupied by ten wooden bedsteads, over which a few coarse bed-clothes are thrown. One of the small sleeping-rooms is devoted to the uses of opium-smokers, and is fitted up with all the appliances necessary for the practice of that baleful vice. At the time the place was visited the proprietor and two assistants were about preparing supper. This consisted of a meat stew and an abundance of rice boiled in water. Jon Asing stated that this was every-day food; on state occasions and fête days the fare was very much better. The Chinese were fond of good living, and his customers, in common with their fellows all over the world, could not always be put off with "hash." Sometimes he served roast beef, boiled chicken, and when it could be procured roast hare. The prices charged at his establishment are $4 a week for board and lodging, and $3 a week for board without sleeping accommodation.

OPIUM SMOKING.

Much has been written by learned authors of Europe in relation to the terrible effects of opium smoking. American writers have also composed voluminous papers upon the same subject. In all instances China is spoken of as that place where the practice most prevails. Perhaps the Americans who have written so much in relation to the matter are not aware that in New-York, the Empire City of thier country, there is situated an opium-smoking saloon which for dirt, squalor, and sliminess can well rank with the most frequented dens of Canton.

In Donovan's lane, a miserable little alley opening from Baxter street, a room is kept particularly and solely for the service of opium-smokers. It is conducted by a withered old wreck, who, although only forty years of age, by his inveterate use of the drug, has the appearance of being at least seventy. The room, if it can be called such, is about twelve feet long by six wide; a slanting board shelf is fixed lengthwise to one of the walls; this is long enough to allow a man of small stature to lie at full length, but not more than four persons could lie on it at a time. It is upon this that the opium-smokers recline when indulging their terrible longing. The place was visited a few evenings since, and was found occupied by two Chinese, one of them a very old man, and the other a youth, who stated that he had just been discharged from the United States steamer Juniata, upon which he had served as officer's steward. Both were smoking opium.

Many persons suppose that opium is used in the same way that tobacco is. This, however, is a mistake. Tobacco can be smoked standing, walking, and at business. The opium smoker always lies down when indulging his habit, and gives all his attention to the process of inhaling the fumes of the drug. Before opium can be used by the smoker it has to be prepared most carefully by persons skilled in its concoction. It is reduced from a solid to a liquid form by boiling with a small quantity of water, and when ready for the pipe looks like a thin paste or thick, muddy molasses. The opium pipe consists of a reed about an inch in diameter. The aperature in the bowl which admits the drug is not much larger than the head of a pin. One-hundredth part of an ounce is all that can be smoked by a beginner. Old debauches, however, can use from a quarter to a third of an ounce daily. Tobacco smokers always emit smoke from their mouths, but an old opium smoker invariably blows the fumes through his nostrils, and very often absorbs them in his lungs. A tobacco pipe can be lighted easily by a match or a coal of fire, but the opium pipe must be lighted with great care, and always by the steady flame of an oil lamp. The small opening in the bowl is held in the flame, and the light is drawn into the reed. After the opium is ignited the process of smoking is a very short one; only one or two whiffs can be taken, and in this way lighting and smoking, scores of persons, inhabitants of this City, spend hour after hour, never ceasing until they drop off into the death-like stupor which is the aim of all opium smoking.

Inveterate smokers live for nothing but the gratification of their appetite. When it cannot be satisfied they suffer tortures of the most horrible character. Those persons who become addicted to the use of the poison seldom live to be more than fifty years of age; most of them die within five years after they have reached that stage in which they can consume a third of an ounce a day. The Chinese in this City admit that the effects of the drug upon the human frame are ruinous in the extreme; they argue, however, that all nations indulge in some dissipation; the Americans, they say, drink whisky until they are drunk, and they ask, if this be so, why is it wrong for a Chinaman to become senseless with opium. Those who live in New-York are, with but few exceptions, devoted to the practice of opium smoking, and, what is far more terrible, a large number of young white girls residing in their neighborhood are rapidly becoming addicted to the same vice. They live with the Chinese when they can find no other home, for although people of their own race close their doors against them, they are always welcome at the firesides of those to whom they sell their souls for the sustenance of their bodies.

BAZAINE'S ADVOCATE.

The following description of M. Lachaud's defense of Bazaine appears, under date of Dec. 8, in the Paris correspondence of the London *Daily Telegraph*:

"Yesterday's introduction to the defense being universally accepted as mere preliminary fencing, everybody was on the tip-toe of expectation for to-day's oratorical display. Englishmen will ask why the trial was continued on Sunday, and especially why the first day of the week was chosen for the opening of Maitre Lachaud's speech. I doubt if any Frenchman living can give any satisfactory reply to the question. The trial has been going on ever since the beginning of October, the sittings have been suspended almost every Thursday, for no obvious reason except that of giving a day's holiday to all concerned, and yet at the very termination of the case it is thought necessary to sit on a Sunday as well as on every week day. The same sort of phenomenon is frequently observed at the Assembly. After a question has been allowed to drag wearily along for many weeks, sometimes for months, Deputies suddenly take it into their heads that it must be settled right off at once, and they decide on the terribly inconvenient process of a night sitting at Versailles. The Sunday's fête brought down an influx of Sunday visitors, and a good deal of extra confusion was the result. The gendarmes who surrounded the edifice were unusually strict in the performance of their duties. They are generally very polite, but they seem to have been embittered by their work to-day, and I heard several complaints of their behavior. I met a friend wandering about in a state of great indignation, for the gendarme had not only refused him admission, but had taken his card from him and torn it up. I feel bound to add that the Duc D'Aumale has a much livelier notion of hospitality—acquired, probably, in England—than most of his compatriots. I happen to know several Englishmen who, taking advantage of a former acquaintance, have applied to him for tickets, and in no instance—in my knowledge, at least—have they been refused. If all Frenchmen were like the Duc D'Aumale in this respect, how popular France would be!

I must plead guilty to being thus far much disappointed with the defense of the most eloquent of French barristers. His great reputation led me to expect a finer oratorical display. He unquestionably posesses many qualifications of an effective speaker, but in the end he fails to produce the anticipated result. His speech does not hang together. Facts are introduced with much dramatic skill, but the deductions are feebly drawn, and they therefore do not carry conviction to the listener's mind. I described his personal appearance at the opening of the trial, but I may again remind your readers that he bears a striking resemblance in face to a well-known English confrère, Sergeant Parry. His features are regular and expressive, his forehead high and broad, scantily covered with light hair. His eyes would be fine were they not deformed by what must be denominated a squint, in spite of which immense disfigurement, there is a brightness in the speaker's look which rivets the listener's attention. He holds himself very erect, and uses more action, and of a more demonstrative description than is habitual to our Bar. He has several gestures which are quite peculiar to himself. Thus, when he speaks of France, or of any specially noble abstraction, he strikes his forehead violently with his open palm; when he expresses disgust, or disappointment, or anger, he claps his hands together several times in rapid succession, while every now and then, at the climax of some oratorical period, he beats his breast with such good will that the blows resound through the hall. He sometimes puts an oratorical full stop to a sentence by throwing down his pocket-handkerchief upon the table before him, and he takes it up again to half hide his mouth when he lets fall some light syllables of irony. But Maitre Lachaud's strongest point is his voice. Of unusual compass, it is equally strong in every part of the register, and it is marvelously under the speaker's control. Sometimes emitted with stentorian power, his tones instantly afterward sink to a whisper so light as to be almost inaudible; now soft, low, and rich, his voice suddenly swells into an organ of tenfold trumpet power. This extraordinary vocal facility has doubtless tempted him into exaggerations which have very likely now become a second nature to the popular barrister, and he often reminds one in his startling changes of a ventriloquist rather than of an orator. I should add that his articulation is peculiarly distinct and pure, and that he never pauses in search of a word. He speaks quite extempore, without any notes, except the documents he has arranged to read out; and the quick glances he perpetually throws at Judges, prosecutor, and audience, as he walks to and fro behind the chair at which he takes his stand, show clearly enough how closely he watches the effect of every word upon his hearers. When he fancies that their attention is flagging, he seizes the back of the chair with both hands, and raps it against the ground, shrieking meanwhile at the top of his voice, then leaning forward and hissing out some date or bare fact in a stage whisper. It will be readily deduced, from all these details, that Maitre Lachaud's manner is eminently theatrical. He is essentially an actor—gifted, versatile, powerful—but always and manifestly an actor. His elocutionary skill seems to impart, at first hearing, a fuller sense to his words than they rightly convey, for he is more remarkable for fluency than for eloquence. His wealth of words seems to be inexhaustible, but you wait in vain for an original idea, and you soon discover that the facile thoughts are clothed in conventional phraseology. It is easy to realize that a discourse framed of such materials is not likely to exercise any very considerable influence on the hard-headed Generals, who stare in unmoved amazement at Maitre Lachaud's impetuosity, and it is not with rhetorical flourishes that the solid walls of Pourcet's stern indictment are to be blown down.

A REPORTED DUEL.

The Prussian correspondent of the London *Times* writes, under date of Berlin, Dec. 3: "The reported duel between Gens. Von Groeben and Manteuffel is a hoax. They certainly fell out during the war, and Groeben, being Manteuffel's subordinate, was sent to prison for presuming to challenge his superior officer; but this occurred some time ago, and the quarrel has since been made up between them. It is stated that the whole Groeben family would have resigned their commissions in the army, and, free from the fetters of the military service, challenged Manteuffel one after the other if there had been a duel between the Field Marshal and their offended relative fatal to the latter." On the other hand, the Cologne *Gazette* of Dec. 2 says the story is true. The *Gazette* apprehends that the result will cause grave dissatisfaction to the Emperor, and will probably lead to the premature close of Gen. Manteuffel's political career. The quarrel between the two Generals is one of old standing, and was originally provoked by Manteuffel, whose manner and speech are none of the most urbane and gentle. Long before the late war Gen. Von Manteuffel had the presumption to call Count Groeben—at that time aide-de-camp to the King—to account for the vote in Parliament of his father, the Count Groeben, who commanded the Prussian contingent on the memorable day of Bronzell. Again a dispute arose in the late war while Groeben was under Manteuffel's command. Groeben challenged his superior, who, according to his duty, reported the matter to the General-in Chief. As a necessary consequence Groeben was sentenced to a year's imprisonment in a fortress, from which the King released him after a short time by royal pardon. The matter affected Count Groeben so deeply that upon being set at liberty he immediately tendered his resignation, which the King most reluctantly accepted. Count Groeben since then made no secret of his determination to call the Field Marshal out as soon as his duty to his country should permit. The *Deutsche Reichs Correspondenz*, which is considered almost a semi-official organ, likewise confirms the report, and adds that the duel took place in the Grunewald, a wood some little distance from Berlin, near the spot known as the Schildhorn. Two Generals acted as seconds.

A DUEL IN NEW-ORLEANS.

The particulars of a recent affair in New-Orleans are thus given by the *Republican*, of December 17: "The difficulty between Messrs. Whitney, of the *Picayune*, and Drury, of the Secretary of State's office, was ended yesterday. A good many hard words and some blows had passed between the parties previously, and the code was appealed to. The sword was selected by the seconds, Messrs. Quintero and Fabre, for Mr. C. E. Whitney, and Messrs. Fortier and Montemat, for Mr. George Drury, as being the fairest weapon, neither of the gentlemen knowing anything of the art of fence. The peculiar colchimard was selected, and the parties jabbed at each other until Mr. Drury's clothes were cut in two places and Mr. Whitney received a severe but not dangerous wound in the left arm. Then they shook hands and felt better. Mr. Whitney did up his wound and went to the races, and Mr. Drury went back to his office."

"AN INSPIRED PRESS."

Under date of Berlin, Dec. 6, an occasional correspondent of the London *Times* writes: "True to the liberal tactics they adopted upon the overthrow of their Conservative allies, the Ultramontanes now go the length of taking an interest even in the prosperity of the press. They have recently introduced a motion to the effect that the newspaper stamp is an unjustifiable and arbitrary impost, and that it should be abolished forthwith by a judicious and equitable Cabinet. The same opinion having been professed all along by every fraction of the Liberal Party, the latter had no hesitation in indorsing a resolution they have themselves so often introduced before, even though proceeding this time from persons regarded as the enemies of all political and religious freedom. Accordingly, the motion was all but unanimously passed. It will not be acceded to, though, by the Government, who, with strange perversion, at a time when they are supported by the bulk of the press, have taken it into their heads to make the abolition of the stamp conditional on the enactment of a new and more stringent press law. The law actually seems the same, which when submitted to the Federal Council a year ago, created so loud and so just an outcry from the writing and reading public of the country. But it is not the motion, and the advantages or disadvantages likely to accrue from it to Prussian journalism, which can be expected to interest your readers. More important than the vote at the end of the day was the debate that preceded it. On that occasion the Ultramontane speakers sympathetically lamented the fate of newspaper proprietors, who have now to hand over to the Government, in the shape of a tax, about one-fourth of the amount of the subscriptions received. Taking a more comprehensive view of the case, and passing from mere pecuniary to political considerations, they also asserted that their primary motive in wishing to see the press freed from so heavy a burden was to enable it to cope with the literary influence of the Government, already too powerful in the country. It was not, they told us, only the papers in the direct employ of the Government which were to be dreaded. There existed a class of Government scribes who, taking their cue from one of the various ministerial bureaus, sent contributions to independent papers, and thus infected the whole German and foreign journalism with their pernicious venom. In their replies to this the Liberal and ministerial speakers strongly insisted upon the character of the really influential journals, which, they maintained, was far above suspicion. It is to be regretted that the speakers did not vouchsafe us ampler details, even though these may be perfectly well known in the political and literary circles of this country. Let me try and elucidate the interesting subject a little more fully. From the annual recurrence of the budget debate and many other circumstances, it is notorious that for something like twenty years a Government press office, called the Literarische Bureau, has existed at Berlin. The duties of the bureau are twofold. In the first place, a large number of German and foreign papers are read at the bureau for the purpose of pointing out interesting passages to the chiefs of the various departments, either for information or for correction, as the case may be. Secondly, the bureau are in the habit of themselves disseminating intelligence communicated to them from various official sources. With this intent the bureau are believed to entertain a regular connection with the two official and three semi-official papers published at Berlin. Of the two official organs, the *Reichs and Staats Anzeiger* is a dry record of facts, while the *Provincial Correspondenz* devotes itself to the task of giving authentic explanations of the policy pursued by the Government in matters of importance. Then there are the three semi-official publications, the well-known *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, the *Volksblatt*, and the *Deutsche Nachrichten*. The two former, differing from each other chiefly in price, are not edited by persons responsible to the Government, but receive intelligence communicated to them from official sources, and intended to be published with the mark of its authentic origin strongly imprinted upon it. As to the *Deutsche Nachrichten*, this is a lithograph sheet in four languages, chiefly designed to spread translations from the German press among foreign diplomatists and journalists, who might otherwise remain unacquainted with these utterances of public opinion. With the exception of the *Provincial Corresdenz*, which is a weekly, all these papers are dailies, and, it must be supposed from their wide circulation, self-supporting. But there is another task imposed upon the Literarische Bureau. To widen the sphere of their action, the bureau impart private information to men who are connected with the office in no other way than that they tacitly engage to send news to country papers, and to comment upon it—provided they choose to comment upon it at all—in a way not prejudicial to the Cabinet of the day. Letters based upon communications of this sort no one conversant with the German press will fail to recognize at the first glance. A string of facts, varied with an admixture of contradictions, the whole couched in a brief and most unattractive style—such is the unmistakable aspect of these inspired catalogues of current events. When unaccompanied by comment, as is mostly the case, they are equally adapted to papers of any shades of opinion; while, if they indulge in argument, they are, of course, Liberal or Conservative, according to the politics prevailing in high quarters, and address themselves only to papers of the same bias. This arrangement is evidently meant to serve a double purpose. It enables the bureau to propagate official opinions in those papers whose editors happen to have like politics with the Cabinet of the day; while, in the case of all other papers, the bureau are content to induce them to disseminate official facts, and, as you may daily convince yourself by an attentive perusal of the German press, do not even object to their facts being discussed in a very critical and independent spirit in the leading articles of the journals in which they appear. Such being the case, it is obvious that no paper need be regarded as ministerial because it inserts correspondence contributed by some semi-official scribe. It is equally intelligible, too, why the Cologne *Gazette*, the leading Liberal paper of Germany, should have refuted as utterly untrue the insinuation of an Ultramontane speaker who charged it with unfairly ministering to Bismarckian tendencies by the receipt and insertion of semi-official matter. And though it certainly indicates considerable confidence for the bureau to pursue such a course, still it must be admitted that, as they neither force comments upon their customers nor object to editorial criticism as long as the correspondent himself abstains from unpalatable remarks, the institution is one that must not be classed with the establishments for the corruption of public opinion existing in some other countries. I will not inquire too closely whether the liberality of the bureau is not the consequence rather of the independent attitude of the press than of anything else; but the result is equally satisfactory, whatever the cause from which it springs.

In conclusion, I may observe that the Berlin Government are assumed to subsidize some country papers writing in their interest; but, as the money, if so expended, comes from the secret service fund, we shall never know the truth about it."

THE LEDOCHOWSKI CASE.

A Berlin letter to the London *Standard*, under date of Dec. 1, has the following:

"The thunderbolt has fallen in Posen at last. Archbishop Ledochowski has received a formal summons to lay down his office within the space of eight days, or to hold himself in readiness to appear before the bar of the newly-established Ecclesiastical Court in Berlin. In fact this contumacious divine was so overwhelmed with fines and with sentences of imprisonment in default of payment that he had become a more difficult customer to deal with in his last stage than in his first. The authorities had laid hands upon everything worth seizing in his house, and doubtless had no wish to resort to the remaining alternative of personal duress. And so, in pursuance of articles 24, 25, and 26 of the law referring to the disciplinary power of the clergy, the Archbishop has been served with an intimation to resign his post, a preliminary formality to the bringing of the case before the Ecclesiastical Court instituted in virtue of the same law, no other tribunal in the Kingdom being competent to try the matter. As the intimation was served on the 24th of last month the eight days' grace expire to-morrow night, after which date the law will take its course. The ground upon which this step has been taken is, that the continuance of the Archbishop in his pastoral office is 'incompatible with the maintenance of public order,' a case for which special provision is made in the enactment above mentioned. The court to which the question is now to be referred—for there can be little doubt that the Archbishop will hold out to the last—consists of eleven members, six at least of whom must be legally-qualified Judges; but a quorum is formed by seven members, provided that four of them belong to the legal profession. The party arraigned has, of course, the right to legal assistance, but the sentence of the court is in all cases final.

The Archbishop's special organ, the *Kuryer Poznanski*, in announcing the step taken by the civil authorities, adds that the two chapters of Gnesen and of Posen were convoked in hot haste on the following morning to the Archiepiscopal residence. The conference lasted for two hours, and, although the particulars have not transpired, it is certain that both these bodies expressed the firm resolve to stand by their superior. 'The decisive moment has, then, at last arrived!' cries the Catholic print; 'a solemn moment, in which it behooves all of us to show, by our spirit of zeal and obedience, our worthiness to share in the sufferings endured by our beloved Archbishop.' And then follows the expression of a pious hope that the event may not lead to any deplorable outbreak of popular resentment.

The letter in which the Pope exhorts the Archbishop to hold out to the last in his struggle with the Prussian Government has, of course, no immediate reference to the matter in hand, as the document itself is dated the 5th of November, although it may be considered as anticipative of some such climax, which, as you will remember, was currently reported to be in contemplation about a month ago. The severity of the press laws is such that no paper has ventured upon the publication of more than a fragment or two of this letter.

Since the above was written all doubt, if any existed, respecting the course to be taken by the Archbishop has been set at rest by a telegram from Posen to the effect that he has already made known his intention to yield to force alone. From this it may be inferred that he will take no further notice of the intimation to resign or of the summons to appear before the court in Berlin. He insists upon a forcible ejectment, and his wish will doubtless be gratified. So far all is simple enough, but what next? The question is an embarrassing one to answer. I suppose that the Government sees its way through all this; but one would say at the first blush that it has been surprised by foul weather, while as yet it has not had the time or the forethought to lay in its stock of Winter gear. It is possible, and by many regarded as very probable, that, as a counter move to the deposition of the Archbishop, the Pope will lay the whole diocese under an interdict—a measure, the effects of which, upon a fanatic Polish peasantry, must not be judged by a purely Berlin standard. All the offices of religion, with the exception of baptism, would be at once suspended throughout the condemned district. The church bell would no longer call the congregation to prayers; there would be no marrying or giving in marriage, and for this want the State has, as we know, made no legal provision; the last sacraments would no more be conveyed to the bedside of the sick and dying, and the wretch who has shuffled off this mortal coil must be consigned to his mother earth with no more ceremony than if he were a dead dog. It may be doubted whether the Papacy will, after all, venture to incur the odium of a resort to this barbarous form of reprisals, with all the fearful consequences which it would entail. But the thing is at all events possible. It has been talked of before, when the strife was in a far milder stage than that which it has reached at present, and it is hinted at now, in the hope perhaps that the prospect of such a threat being carried out may induce the Government to give way at the eleventh hour."

MR. ARCH AT HOME.

A dispatch from Barford to the London *Daily News* reports that on Dec. 4 a demonstration in honor of the return from Canada of Mr. Arch, President of the National Agricultural Laborers' Union, took place in his native Warwickshire village. A large concourse of persons assembled on the village green to hear the narrative of his Canadian tour from the traveler's own lips, and an enthusiastic reception was given to him. Several speakers, in terse though homely terms, expressed their admiration of his character and work, and eulogized Mr. Arch as one of the first reformers of the day. When Mr. Arch rose to speak he was received with renewed cheering. Replying to those who accused him of interested motives, he stated that his connection with the union had not resulted in the addition of a single shilling to his income more than he would have earned if he had continued at his manual labors. His simple object had been, not his own personal advancement, but the amelioration of the condition of agricultural laborers; and, although calumny and abuse had been heaped upon him, he now, in the midst of his fellow villagers, challenged them, or any man in England, to say anything which could injure his character. He had lately traveled 12,000 miles, and was not a shilling the richer. The farm laborers of England now enjoyed an opportunity for resisting a reduction of wages and securing improvements in their social and political status, which, if allowed to slip, might never occur again. The union numbered thousands on thousands of members, and its funds amounted to thousands of pounds. If farmers threw down the gauntlet, the union meant fighting, and was prepared to take every farm laborer in England from his employer, unless he was properly treated. If the landlords of England would not listen to their just demands, he would make the House of Commons listen to their grievances; and, if necessary, he would enter Parliament to press their claims. The union was backed by 740,000 artisans, who were determined to support it until the laborers gained their rights. He now knew more than the farmers, whom he could set at defiance. He had it from the best authorities that the extension of the franchise in the counties was high up on the forthcoming programme. The question would be brought before the House of Commons early in the ensuing session; and its opponents must be careful, or they would find Joseph Arch, at the head of 600,000 farm laborers, marching into Palace-yard, and laying hold of the doors of St. Stephen's. A few hundreds belonging to the Union might be well spent in carrying thousands of the tillers of the soil to the seat of the Legislature to claim the political freedom which they were determined to possess. In regard to emigration, he observed that the class of men whom the farmers of England had not fed so well as they did their dogs, nor housed so well as they housed their cattle, were now in especial demand in every market of the world. Australia and New-Zealand made them most tempting offers; while Canada had conceded his every demand, in order that he might send fifty thousand men to the Dominion next Spring. While agreeing with the press that England could not afford to lose her good men, and regretting the loss to the mother country of her bone and sinew, he felt that the exodus must go on, unless the laborers were treated differently in the future to what they had been in the past. The problem could be solved by the landed proprietors; but they must begin at once, or they would be a day too late. If the laborers had proper cottage accommodation and four or five acres of land, on the terms on which it was let to farmers, the laborers would not leave their native shores, and the result would be the proper cultivation of the land, while under the present system one-half of its capabilities were not developed. The day was not far distant when land-owners would have to concede to the laborers a portion of the soil. A country was going to ruin when the land was not producing half the quantity it should produce. In view of the present bad cultivation of the soil, and consequent loss to the nation, he was determined to procure an act of Parliament, making its proper cultivation obligatory on the owners of the land, so that the soil might not be held so much for private gain as for the general good. Humorously alluding to the insinuation that he was a "confiscator and Communist, and young Republican hero," he disclaimed any such proclivities, and urged that he approved of no confiscation but such as was sanctioned by Parliament. As persons were required to give up their land when it was required by a railway company or for other purposes sanctioned by act of Parliament, so they ought to surrender their land when they were proved to be unable or unwilling to develop its resources, in order that it might be properly tilled, and the people be fed. He intended, in his interview with Mr. Gladstone on the following day, to impress upon him the necessity of the interference of the Government in order to secure the proper cultivation of the soil. Adverting to local taxation, he urged that it would never be equalized until working men were returned to Parliament. While the farmers were grunting under their burdens, and had ninety-six representatives in the House of Commons, not one of them ventured to second the Tenant-right bill. Farmers would never get proper representation until the laborer had the franchise; because they had not the pluck to avail themselves of the ballot. The country was now losing its strength and hastening to destruction, because the labor problem was not solved. Where were the recruits for the army to come from? Not from "the country lads," for he would send them to a clime where fortune rewarded honest labor, and every man enjoyed perfect freedom. He went on to rebut the statement that his mission was a failure, and that he found Canada worse even than England; and he affirmed that on that fertile soil the sober and industrious laborer could, in three years, obtain a position to which he could not attain in a long life-time in this country. To each laborer the Government would give 160 acres of land, five of which would be cleared for him, and they would build him a shanty with two bed-rooms and two sitting-rooms, each 26 by 13 feet. They would further give the seed for sowing the five acres, and while it was growing they would give the men from 6s. to 8s. a day to work in making colonial roads. At his request the Government had reduced the fare from six guineas to 45s. for each adult.

Mr. Arch visited London afterward for the purpose of having an interview with the Premier in reference to emigration and other subjects.

LITERATURE IN PARIS.

M. Edmond About writes in the *Athenæum*:

"I am no prophet, and therefore it would be hazardous for me to say that the literary activity of France will soon resume its normal course. It is, however, but too certain, it seems to me, that at the present moment it is, relatively to what it was, in a state of depression. The number of English publications which I see mentioned each week in the *Athenæum* reminds me that we, too, three or four years ago, printed a novel a day without prejudice to critical, historical, or philosophical works. We hardly find time now-a-days to publish one or two books, heavy and light put together, in a week. Our political journals, which, in the eyes of the weaker sex, have no reason for existing except the novel cut into sandwiches, I mean into *feuilletons*, do not offer even that unsubstantial food regularly to their readers. Their excuse is that there is so much news, political debates are so long, and then that they have to give an account of the drama that is being played at Trianon. But the fact is that a tolerable novel is all but unprocurable, and that the papers find it necessary to be very sparing of such rarities."

THE BIBLE IN NEW-ZEALAND.

A correspondent of the Hawke's Bay *Herald*, who has recently been among the Maori tribes near Lake Taupo, in the central district of Northern New-Zealand, sends a very interesting account of the Hauhaus in that quarter. These, though maintaining an independent attitude toward the Colonial Government ever since the last war left them unsubdued, have not testified any readiness to join their co-religionists to the north on the Waikato in the outrages which have lately raised the fear of fresh hostilities. According to his report, Hauhauism has toned down from its first bloodthirsty extravagances into a quiet and respectable sort of monotheism. The Hauhaus have agreed to reject the New Testament in its entirety, but they have accepted the Old, and from their native translations of it erected, what is, in fact, a Judaism of their own. They have even dropped the observance of the Sunday to take up that of the Jewish Sabbath; and, in fact, in all things conform to Jewish practice so far as their knowledge enables them to go. At the head-quarters of the tribe, the Urewerag, a morning and evening service are invariably recited daily; but they make these daily devotions merely a matter of ten minutes or so. The service consists chiefly in chanting in chorus verses of the Psalms, and concludes with a short extempore prayer by one of the chiefs; for this tribe appears to have got rid of the native priests who led them into rebellion. The Ureweras have a great knowledge of Scripture, and are especially fond of justifying their own fierce acts in the last war by references to such cases as those of Jael and Sisera, or Samuel and Agag; notwithstanding which precedents they seem to have become a very sensible and orderly set of aborigines indeed, now that the fever of fanaticism has died out among them.

SHIP-BUILDING IN MAINE.

LARGE INCREASE DURING THE PRESENT YEAR—SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

A correspondent of the Boston *Journal*, who writes from Augusta, Me., under date of Dec. 13, gives an interesting and valuable record of the operations of the ship-builders in Maine during the season which has just closed. The correspondent gives detailed statements, showing the results in all the districts of the State except Passamaquoddy, from which no returns have been received, and which last year built twenty-six vessels, mostly schooners, with an aggregate tonnage of 4,381.51. These statements show that there have been built in the State, (Passamaquoddy not included,) ten ships, twenty-three barks, two barkentines, ten brigs, 156 schooners, twelve sloops, thirteen steamers, and one propeller. This is a total of 227 vessels, the aggregate tonnage of which is 83,689.58. The correspondent says: "It is safe to conclude from unofficial information received that the tonnage built this year in the Passamaquoddy district will not be less than 5,000, chiefly schooners, so that the total number of vessels built in Maine the present year will be not less than 255, with an aggregate of 88,689 tons, or the marvelous increase of 120 per cent. more than the tonnage built last year, with an approximate value of nearly $5,000,000. The Bath district has built the largest amount of tonnage, with the Waldoboro' district second, and the Machias district third. In 1872, there were built in the Bath district forty-seven vessels, with a total of 13,557 65-100 tons. This year, forty-eight vessels have been built, with a total of 31,754 50-100 tons, an increase of 134 per cent. over the tonnage of last year. It has been the most prosperous year since 1856, when the tonnage of the district was about 49,000 tons, old measurement. At the present time there are on the stocks at Bath thirteen vessels, two of which are ships, of a total tonnage of over 12,000, which are not included in the above estimate. In the Waldoboro' district there were built in 1872 twenty-six vessels, with a total of 6,965 1-100 tons. This year there has been built forty-three vessels, with a total of 13,605 53-100 tons, an increase of more than 95 per cent. over the tonnage of last year. In the Machias district and in the remaining districts there is the same ratio of increase in the amount of tonnage built over that of last year, and the year will close with one of the most prosperous years in ship-building known for nearly twenty years. It will be observed that while there has been an increase in the number of ships built over that of last year, and for many previous years, the increase over the tonnage of last year was sixty-six per cent. The average of Maine ships show them to be of larger tonnage than those built in former years, scarcely a ship being constructed but what is from 1,200 to 1,500 tons and upward. The increase in the number of schooners built (including an estimate of the Passamaquoddy district) has been at least fifty per cent. over the tonnage of last year. Three-masted schooners are fast superseding other kinds of vessels. They are built cheaper, and consequently there is more profit in their construction. The larger number of these schooners built in the Bath and Waldoboro' districts will average from 300 to 600 tons each. The indications are that the general prosperity in Maine ship-building will be continued another year, and that there will be an increase in the number of large vessels over those built this year."

GERMANISM IN POLAND.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* remarks that the *Prawda*, a Polish paper published in London, gives some curious information with regard to the spread of Germanism in Lithuania and the Kingdom of Poland. It appears from letters received from those countries that German agents are as numerous and as active in Russian Poland as they are said to have been in Elsass-Lorraine before the Franco-German war, while the Russian authorities are so absorbed in their efforts to crush the Polish element that they do not notice this intrusion of a far more formidable adversary. Nearly the whole of the district of Czenstochov is now full of German colonists. The towns of Lodz, Zgierz and Jurek are entirely German; Kalisz is half German, and the banks of the Vistula as far as Plock are studded with German settlements, the colonists acting in all respects as if they were in the Fatherland. One of these Germanized towns, Wloclawek, was brilliantly illuminated when the news came of the battle of Sedan, though the municipal authorities had expressly forbidden any demonstration on the occasion. The country traversed by the railway from Warsaw to St. Petersburg is also becoming rapidly Germanized. In the town of Bialystok the prevailing language is German, and at Kovno the Jewish shopkeepers have changed the Polish inscriptions on their shops for German ones, finding that the latter brought them more customers. The total number of Germans who have settled in Russian Poland since the insurrection of 1863-4 is estimated at nearly 2,000,000. A great number of Prussian officers are employed in the factories of the country as engineers, it being found that they are satisfied with lower salaries and are less independent than civilians. These officers, of course, have ample opportunities for studying the military capabilities of the country, and it is believed that the German staff is now better informed as to the geography of Russian Poland than the Russian. There is already a sufficient number of Prussian officers and soldiers who have thus become acquainted with the country to provide each brigade of the German army with a staff of guides, who would be of the greatest use in the event of a war between Germany and Russia.

THE DUKE OF HAMILTON'S STUD.

The *Gaulois* gives a lengthened description of the sale of the Duke of Hamilton's racing stud in Paris, which took place at the establishment of M. Cheri-Lyon. Alluding to his Grace as one of the greatest nobles of Europe—next, indeed, to the Princes of the blood—the journal in question gives a brief account of his career as a sportsman, and ascribes his retirement from such pursuits to his approaching marriage. The stable of the Duke of Hamilton is described as having been one of the most important in France, and its break up, it is anticipated, will be a great loss to French racing. His withdrawal is, however, only looked upon as temporary, and especial stress is laid on the fact that none of his steeple-chase horses were included in the sale, the predilection of the Duke for this branch of sport being well known. Thirty-seven horses were offered for sale, and the amount realized was 133,795 francs (about £5,350). Several lots were withdrawn or bought in. The brood mares excited keen competition among the representatives of Austria and Prussia—M. Cavaliercho and M. Oppenheim—Baron Rothschild being nearly the only French breeder who could successfully compete with these formidable antagonists.

LOUISIANA FINANCES.

The New-Orleans *Times*, of Dec. 17, says: "The work of establishing the State finances upon something approaching a business basis, is rapidly progressing, and by the time the Legislature reassembles it is thought the entire programme will have been arranged, and nothing will remain to be done, except the necessary legislation to give the plans agreed upon the solemnity of law. The committee of experts, appointed by the Superior Court to investigate the State debt, have about completed their labors, and if we are to credit common report, their statement shows a material reduction of what can justly be considered a legal indebtedness. A very general disposition is manifested among holders of State securities to settle their claims at a material reduction, and if new bonds are issued and a constitutional amendment adopted limiting the State debt, and the rate of taxes to an amount which the people can promptly pay, our financial embarrassments will be about over."

COURT CALENDARS—THIS DAY.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—Held by Brady, J.—36, Murray vs. Fitzpatrick et al.; 74, Sanderson et al. vs. Williams; 87, Martme vs. Lowenstein et al.; 92, Mandee et al. vs. Mander et al., 99, Osgood et al., Receiver, vs. Neptune Steam-ship Company; 103, In the matter, &c., Harmony Insurance Company; 122½, —— vs. ——; 165, Heirg vs. Blunt; 176, Mostback vs. Mather et al.; 182, Hall vs. Van Winkle; 187, In the matter, &c., New-York C. C. E. and M. S. of Methodist Episcopal Church; 202, Treadwell vs. Pomeroy et al.; 204, Same vs. Same; 209, Lookup vs. Collins et al.; 210, Rutter vs. Jones; 211, Root vs. Wheeler; 213, Heifenstein vs. Ferguson; 217, Treadwell vs. Pomeroy et al.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT—Part II.—Regular Term.—Adjourned for the term.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT—Part II.—Adjourned Term.—Held by Van Brunt, J.—Short Causes—276½, Connell et al. vs. Pyne; 1348, Graham vs. McKenzie; 1486, Germania Bank of the City of New-York vs. Destler et al.; 2710, Bruce vs. Taylor; 2898, Hallgarten et al. vs. Bernheimer et al.; 3116, Brewster vs. Manning; 2564, Bowery National Bank vs. Golell, impleaded; 1556, Mathes vs. Lisgar; 2256, Claflin et al. vs. Elsberg et al.; 2794, Kelcher et al. vs. Odell; 2938, Taylor vs. Mittnacht; 2958, Vogel et al. vs. Bass et al.; 3200½, Goodwin vs. Hamburg Iron Company; 3224, Murray et al. vs. Valentine et al.; 3248½, Von Stade vs. Sherman; 952, Ocean National Bank of the City of New-York vs. Walbridge et al.; 1284, Fullerton vs. Charlock; 3142, Gopsill vs. Decker; 3216, Mills et al. vs. Brennan; 3218, Waterbury, vs. Mann et al.; 3228, Mills et al. vs. Kennard et al.; 3260, Landman vs. Lee.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM—Part I.—Adjourned for the term.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM—Part II.—Adjourned for the term.

COMMON PLEAS—TRIAL TERM—Part I.—Adjourned for the term.

COMMON PLEAS—TRIAL TERM—Part II.—Adjourned for the term.

COMMON PLEAS—EQUITY TERM—Adjourned until Dec. 29.

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM—Part I.—Adjourned for the term.

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM—Part II.—Adjourned for the term.

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM—Part III.—Held by Joachimsen, J.—3067, Farley vs. Feehan; 3200, Johnson vs. Rosenstock.

SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM.—Adjourned until Monday.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.—Adjourned until Monday.

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The New York Times.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, DEC. 26, 1873.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Lucia di Lammermoor, (Italian Opera)—Mme. Nilsson, M. Victor Capoul.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—A Man of Honor—Mr. Lester Wallack, Mr. Gilbert, Mme. Ponisi.

FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.—Parricide—Mr. Charles Fisher, Mr. William Davidge, Miss Sara Jewett.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—Led Astray—Miss Rose Eytinge, Mr. Stuart Robson.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—Humpty Dumpty Abroad—Mr. G. L. Fox, Miss Fanny Hayward.

BROADWAY THEATRE.—The Woman in White—Mr. Wybert Reeve, Miss Helen Tracy.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Gabriel Grub—The Mallton and Raynor Families.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—Kit, the Arkansas Traveler—Mr. F. S. Chanfrau.

THE RINK.—Barnum's Museum, Menagerie, and Circus. Afternoon and evening.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—Dramatic Performance afternoon and evening. Curiosities.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.—Children in the Wood—The Vokes troupe.

MRS. CONWAY'S THEATRE, BROOKLYN.—The Wicked World—Mrs. F. B. Conway, Mr. W. Lennox.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS.—Farces, Singing, Comicalities—Messrs. Unsworth, N. Seymour, and others.

ASSOCIATION HALL.—Lecture by Grace Greenwood. "Yankee Wit and Character."

LYRIC HALL.—Mrs. Jarley's Wax Works and Tableaux.

ROBINSON HALL.—Magic—Indian Box Trick—By Prof. Hartz.

STEINWAY HALL.—Piano Concert by Blind Tom.

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A Committee of Safety is a somewhat formidable name, and the knot of persons to whom its functions were delegated at the Cooper Institute meeting started with a somewhat threatening declaration of principles. But, so far they have confined themselves to the task of "protecting" what they are pleased to term "the interests of the people," and have generously abstained from "enforcing" them. The call just issued by the committee has, for its main purport, an invitation to attend certain district mass-meetings for the purpose of hearing the "leaders" of the movement declaim about the necessity of engrafting an imported socialism upon the stock of American freedom. The only harm that these blatherskites are likely to do is in alienating men whose aid and counsel would be valuable to working people at a juncture like the present. For instance, the "call" contains a gross over-statement, to the effect that nearly all employment has already been suspended in the City. The inquiries of our reporters lately revealed the fact that belonging to the various trades of the City there were about 4,000 more men out of employment than at the corresponding period of last year. Calculating on this basis, the proportion of unemployed not connected with the trades-unions, we reach a total which represents a large enough volume of distress to call for special effort, but certainly not large enough to exceed the capacity of our existing machinery of relief. If the "Committee of Safety" have any figures which are more trustworthy, let them publish them in a form susceptible of analysis and verification. That will be better than the gaseous effusion of inflammatory speeches at mass-meetings.

It is not a little instructive to note that the further west we go the more violent do we find the tone of the speeches at the working men's meetings, and that the violence of individual speakers is generally in inverse ratio to the stage of advancement in the knowledge of our language and institutions. People have been somewhat puzzled to account for the fact that the German, who has justly earned the character of being an orderly, law-abiding citizen, and who has rather unjustly been credited with a good deal of the phlegm of his Dutch cousin, should find a strange delight in listening to the most revolutionary kind of harangues from some voluble compatriot. We suspect that the explanation is tolerably commonplace. Boys who have been trained under an iron discipline are sometimes remarkable for the glee with which they will engage in a foray on an orchard or a melon-patch. A sternly repressive political system may suit some people just as well as uncompromising rigor suits some children, but the natural effect of both is to give a new zest to any form of rebellious protest which can be safely indulged in. It is no very violent supposition that Bismarck, with his "blood-and-iron" theory of rule, is remotely responsible for a good deal of the wild communism of New-York, Cincinnati, and Chicago.

If there is anybody still at a loss to account for the recent falling off in the revenues of the Federal Government, a little study of the figures published in another column relating to the decreased imports of British products, ought to afford the key to a problem which has already been explained with tolerable minuteness in these columns. The figures cover the eleven months ending Nov. 20, for the years 1872 and 1873. They reveal the following facts: Our imports of British cotton goods have fallen off, as compared with last year, 18 per cent.; of British iron and lead we have imported 320,365 tons, as compared with 726,696 tons in 1872, being a decrease of over 55 per cent. Our imports of British silk goods has fallen off more than 50 per cent.; in manufactured wool the decrease is 60 per cent., and in woolen cloth, 20 per cent.; in carpets the rate of decrease is about 25 per cent. Remembering that all this shrinkage of imports represents a corresponding falling off in Customs receipts, there need be little difficulty in understanding the present necessities of the national Treasury.

Figures were never more eloquent than in the official returns of the vote of Pennsylvania on the new Constitution. This instrument was drawn so entirely in the interests of the people, and was designed to strike down so many abuses which were supposed to be impregnably intrenched, that its rejection was reasonably feared by its friends. It had arrayed against it every interest that had fattened upon a vicious administration of public affairs, and it was contemptuously styled the work of impracticables in politics. Yet this instrument has been adopted by a majority which is a credit to Pennsylvania, but is chiefly valuable for showing that the American people are yet capable of making substantial progress in the science of popular government. There is reason to hope for much reform and improvement in the future, when a Constitution like that of Pennsylvania is adopted by a majority of 145,150 in a total vote of 362,338. So general throughout the State was the sentiment in favor of the new Constitution, that majorities against it can be found in only seven of the sixty-six counties.

Information of the utmost importance to every citizen of New-York will be found in an article upon harbor obstructions which we publish this morning. The encroachments upon the Harbor of New-York carried on for many years under color of law, and since persisted in by private and corporate greed in defiance of statutes, have been extensive and alarming. The damage inflicted on the harbor has been great, and it is clear that unless something is done to put an effectual check to these encroachments, the total sacrifice of available shipping accommodations becomes a mere question of time. That energetic supervision of the harbor can do much to preserve it, was shown by the administration of the Harbor Commissioners. Since the overthrow of the Ring so many wrongs more plainly on the surface of affairs have required to be corrected, that the harbor has not received the attention it deserves. The Legislature at the next session should do something in this matter. The warnings coming from so many eminent engineers ought not to be unheeded. If New-York cannot or will not protect her harbor, then the United States must do it in the interests of the nation.

Although the Broome street tragedy has been apparently entirely forgotten by the Police, it is yet fresh in the public mind. A murder in a public street or a bar-room occasions no general alarm, for it is considered only an outbreak of the lawlessness which every one knows to exist. But a murder committed in the presumed security of the home excites a painful interest in every household. The suggestions of such a crime cause a general desire for the capture and punishment of the perpetrator. The public have not, therefore, forgotten the killing of the two Ryans, nor will the Police be allowed to pass it by as an ordinary affair. It is true our detectives are supposed to have more profitable work usually than tracking murderers, but they are nevertheless expected to discover the chief actor in the Broome street tragedy. And they are required first of all to dismiss the idea that Ryan, having killed his sister, committed suicide. The theory is too absurd to find lodgment in any mind but that of a policeman. While it is entertained nothing, of course, will be done to ferret out the culprit, and its dismissal is therefore demanded in the interests of justice.

In designating Judges Van Vorst and Van Brunt to hold Circuit and Special Terms of the Supreme Court, Gov. Dix has exercised a power which we believe has never been used before. The amended judiciary article of the Constitution, adopted in 1869, provides that "the Legislature may provide for detailing Judges of the Superior Court and Court of Common Pleas of New-York to hold circuits or special terms of the Supreme Court in that City as the public interest may require." Provision for the exercise of this power was made in chapter 408 of the laws of 1870, and Gov. Dix has, therefore, full authority of law for the transfer of a Judge from one court to another. It may be safely presumed that his action was demanded by the public interests, and it is quite certain his selections were as good as any he could have made. The Supreme Court thus reinforced should be able to dispatch business at a rate that will enable litigants to obtain justice much quicker than some of them may desire.

OAKEY HALL'S TRIUMPH.

Among Mr. Oakey Hall's numerous claims to distinction, the impartial historian will be called upon to include the proud position of which he has long boasted, as contributor to the New-York *Herald*. The "intellectual" articles which appear in that paper usually outrage common sense, grammar, and decency, in almost equal proportions. It may fairly be said that, upon the whole, the *Herald* has published a larger quantity of rubbish, in viler English, than any other newspaper since newspapers were first invented. Its daily assortment of "editorials" is scarcely up to the level of an intelligent Fantee, and is now pretty generally admitted to be a disgrace to American journalism. We do not know for what precise share of this charming work Ex-Mayor Hall is responsible, and we certainly hope that he was not the author of an article which appeared in the Buchu journal yesterday on his own case. Because that article was not only an insult to the public, but it provokes a discussion which cannot improve Mr. Oakey Hall's standing before the public, and which, if he were a wise man, he would carefully avoid. We will endeavor to make him understand the latter fact once for all.

There is a great deal of nonsense in the *Herald's* defense of him which may be safely passed over unnoticed—about Hall's taking a seat on a table in court as though he were "at the club"—we presume the Union Club is not meant, because Mayor Hall was virtually expelled from that; about his gay conversation and jokes; his lively reminiscences and good stories, for, says the *Herald*, "anecdote and the sparkle of wit are indigenous to him." It is a great pity, for the sake of an over-taxed public, that honesty was not also "indigenous" to him. The verdict, continues the *Herald*, filled every heart with joy—"the crowd was pleased, wild, uproarious." And then, adds the faithful organ of the Tweed thieves and the slums, "the verdict will be approved by the people." It is upon that point that we have a few words to say.

Mayor Hall had the means of frustrating nearly all the Tammany frauds. Without his signature to the false warrants, the money never could have been drawn. The object of obliging him to affix his signature to these warrants was undoubtedly to prevent fraud—he was supposed to look at what he signed, as most men do, even in the ordinary business of life. He signed warrants for work which was never done, and they were repeated in all sorts of forms without attracting his suspicion. He signed warrants for the same amount over and over again—even a glance at the names of the persons drawing the money would have shown him that a gigantic swindle was being practiced, for ten or twelve warrants were sometimes drawn in favor of the same man in a single day. Is there any excuse for a man placed in a responsible position acting in this manner?

But the day came when the robbery to which Mayor Hall was an accessory was clearly brought home to the gang, and then what course did Hall take? Did he come forward and express his regret at the fraud which he had helped to commit—did he offer any apology for his conduct? No—he took a totally different step. With the full evidence against his confederates confronting him, he declared that The Times had forged the warrants; that Tweed and Connolly were the very souls of honor; that the City finances were in a perfectly sound condition; that he was ready to stand or fall with Tweed, Sweeny, and Connolly. He did not attack his confederates—he only abused their assailants. He threatened an action against The Times for exposing them. And all this, and much more, took place long after the full proofs of the Tammany frauds had been given to the public through our columns. We will shortly make a selection of passages from Mayor Hall's own paper, the *Leader*, by way of illustrating the tenacity with which, at this time, and down to November, 1871, he clung to Tweed and his other worthy associates. And it is to be observed that even to this hour Hall has never expressed a single word of regret for the robberies to which he was a party. His counsel have not a syllable to utter against Tweed or Connolly or Sweeny. Probably they dare not do it. Tweed could tell too much.

The *Herald* says that "political organs" have denounced Mayor Hall "in the same coarse language which they used toward the real culprits." We remember that when we called Tweed and Connolly thieves, it was thought to be very "coarse" language indeed—it quite shocked most of our contemporaries. We have not heard so many complaints on that score lately. The *Herald*, however, which had nearly a dozen of its editors and reporters in the pay of Tammany, and which was utterly under Tammany guidance and management, naturally defends its old friends even at this late hour. It says that the tone of the journals which were so "coarse" toward Tweed & Co. has recently changed, especially in reference to Hall. Mr. Hall should have been grateful for any forbearance which has been shown to him, and not ventured quite so soon to chuckle over it as a victory. Our opinion about him has never altered. We once called him a thief—perhaps he does not forget it—and he is quite welcome to bring an action against us for so doing if he likes. In fact, we would rather he did than that he didn't. Whether he took any money or not, or how much, we cannot say—but we shall always believe that he deliberately and knowingly connived at the robberies of his confederates. He had charge of the plate, and he passed it out of the window to the thieves who were waiting for it. He declares that he received none of the plunder. We believe that he either *did*, or that he took what was regarded by himself and his "pals" as a full equivalent. He was kept in office by the Tweed gang; he thought that gang could never be overthrown; he laughed at our efforts to upset it; and the price of his assistance and silence was the *post of Governor*. This was distinctly promised to him, and he never doubted for one moment that the promise would be kept. It would have been kept, but for the overthrow of the gang in 1871—a blow which took them completely unawares, and which no one anticipated less than Oakey Hall. Hoffman was to have been the Democratic candidate for President in 1873, and Oakey Hall for Governor. This was a *part* of his share in the plunder—it *may* have been all. But if a man bargains to do a dishonest act, it matters little to the persons he has defrauded what consideration he accepted. Does anybody suppose now that Hall worked so long hand-in-glove with Tweed, Connolly, and all the rest of them without *knowing* that they were thieves?

"The verdict is gratifying to the City," boasts the *Herald*. If that were true, it would be a very disgraceful fact; but it is not true. There has simply been a failure of justice. The prosecution was rather lamely conducted. Surely, for instance, the fact that Hall publicly defended the robberies, *after* they were found out and exposed, might have been mentioned, at least in the address of counsel. The jury was one of the sort to which we are too well accustomed in this City. But the affair is not quite over yet. The public were most shamefully robbed; to this hour, and for years to come, they are condemned to bear heavy burdens on account of that robbery, and Oakey Hall was the chief person by whose connivance—by whose very signature—it was committed. Perhaps we shall now see him asked to a public dinner, as a recognition of his dishonesty in swindling the public, and his adroitness in evading the legal consequences of his guilt.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY.

The distance, morally, between the age when one of the most cultivated peoples of antiquity exposed unfortunate and deformed children and orphans near the Velabrum, in Rome, to be bought by pimps, witches, and beggars, and the present, when every ingenious device of civilization and humanity is employed to benefit these unfortunates, is immense. And yet, in comparison with the secular periods during which the material earth was in process of preparation for man, or even in comparison with the long course of human history, these eighteen hundred years form but a transient epoch. The light of the first Christmas morning, which shone around the humble inn among the hills of Bethlehem, has only begun to gild human history. The "good-will to men," which was there proclaimed, has just commenced, as it were, to take possession of a few individuals of the leading historical races. And yet in this brief period, what vast changes has it brought about! It has gradually broken the fetters of the slave, elevated woman, purified family life, drawn different classes together in a new "solidarity" of sympathy, and covered all civilized lands with countless institutions for the unfortunate, the physically defective, the homeless, and the orphans. The charity which Christmas-tide pours over the earth was something unknown to antiquity, except in the solitary meditations of a few pure-minded thinkers among the stoics, and even with most of them, it was a charity of sentiment rather than of practical life. That, at a certain season, all who are fortunate and possessed of this world's goods should, as if by instinct, think of and provide for some of the great masses of unfortunate and unhappy, and that children especially should be trained in all Christian countries, to scatter at this time benefactions among the children who are poor and friendless, is something utterly unknown to the Pagan world, and which, in itself, is a mile-stone of human progress. For the happy to think of the unhappy in the midst of their highest happiness, and for the rich "to consider the poor" when their hearts are most full of joy, is a spectacle which even the most positive of Positivists could not contemplate without pleasure.

To the Christian believer it seems the first dim rays of the morning of charity which is yet to illumine the earth; when the spirit of that "Babe of Bethlehem" shall fill all hearts as it now fills a few, and unselfishness and sympathy and brotherly kindness shall rule among all classes and through all races. It is often a matter of wonder to religious believers what the Positivist and Materialist make of even the slender progress we see under Christianity, and what they would substitute for it. M. Comte would have mankind frame an ideal of a female embodying *L'Humanité*, to whom there should be fête days, and whom all should worship by ceremonies. Strauss has a more abstract conception of a *Universum*, which should in some mysterious way inspire mankind to brotherly kindness. Mill, in some private letter, (though we do not see it in his *Autobiography*,) has somewhere suggested the formation of "days of meditation" on the spirits of our ancestors.

Why have these philosophers such a dread of remembering the "Babe of Bethlehem?" Surely if he were a myth, (which no genuine historical scholar can maintain,) is he not as good a myth as the *Universum*, or *L'Humanité*, or if he be only a Jewish philosopher, he would seem, at least, to be worthy of the same honor with Socrates or Marcus Antoninus. But when the Positivists would class him with the Greek and Roman philosophers and stoics, they must account for certain great historical facts—that stoicism, with its transcendent morality, has been but a foam or ripple on the great tidal wave of human progress, while Christianity yet guides and impels the current. To the masses, Zeno and Socrates, and Cicero and Epictetus, and Marcus Antoninus have passed utterly away; but He who appeared the humble and unlearned Jewish peasant still influences all classes, molds the most eminent intellects of races widely separated, controls all modern civilization, and will yet even change the public relations of all nations to one another. Surely, Christmas, with its spirit, is a historical fact which modern skepticism has not yet overthrown, and seems never likely to overthrow.

"THE RIGHT TO CREDIT."

Among the demands which the recent meetings of unemployed workmen at the West have put forth is one which is an echo of European communistic claims; that is, "the right of the working classes to credit from the Government."

To many of our American readers this will sound as one of the wildest of the many wild claims of the French and German Socialists. But it has arisen naturally, and somewhat in this wise: the working people have beheld persons without capital, and with little character, set up branches of business in our cities, and at once, on the strength of their social connections, or from personal influence with bank officers, or through other means, secure a boundless credit. Now, as Mr. Bagehot has so well shown in his *Lombard Street*, the possession of much credit, with little capital, often gives the dealer, or merchant, or banker, temporarily an advantage over his competitor who has the same credit, but more capital. In consequence, the working classes often see these impecunious and speculative dealers, with the mysterious and powerful help of credit, surpassing even wealthy rivals, and obtaining all the advantage of wealth, without ever possessing it. They accordingly ask why the laboring man, equally honest, more productive and industrious, and as deserving of credit, should be left in narrow circumstances, with all his business enterprises cramped, and condemned to drudge all his days, for the want of credit alone? Why should not the poor producer, as well as the poor schemer or speculator, enjoy the opportunity of borrowing the savings of the community for legitimate efforts at production? The enormous power and marvelous action of credit in modern mercantile and manufacturing affairs have been seen for some time by the leaders of the European Internationals and the socialistic bodies, and they have sought in various ways to secure them on the side of the working classes. Every great communistic scheme has included "the right of credit" among the new privileges demanded by the laboring men.

Certain German artisans have secured this great privilege in a natural and wise manner, and have succeeded beyond the artisans of any other country in obtaining credit on a large scale for the poorer producing classes and professions. This has been accomplished through what will yet be proved to be the great panacea of modern social evils—co-operation. The German workmen themselves have united on an immense scale to found "Credit Banken," and the country is covered with associations which lend money to their members on fixed and definite conditions. We have not space here to go into an examination of their machinery and its remarkable results. Suffice it to say that co-operation has secured the assistance of credit to an immense number of honest, industrious German working men, and has developed production in the most prudent and natural manner throughout the German Empire. The success of this remarkable experiment, we believe, is one explanation of the extraordinary development of wealth during the past ten years in Germany.

For reasons which we cannot here set forth, most efforts at co-operation in the United States have been failures; and, so far as we are aware, no attempt has been made to found "credit banks" by the workmen among themselves. To a large degree, in some portions of the country, savings banks and building associations take the place of credit banks in supplying loans to working men for building purposes. But for ordinary business ventures, we suppose working men would find it difficult to borrow money, unless on good securities. To us this does not seem a hardship; and we should not regret if credit were also cut off somewhat to the non-producing class, and it were less easy to make money on borrowed capital. Credit has certainly been inflated in this country to the utmost extent consistent with safety. If the same system of lending and borrowing prevailed among the laboring classes, as it does among the mercantile, we should fear more frequent and more terrible explosions even than we have thus far experienced. And every explosion of inflated credit, it must be remembered, shatters especially the fortunes of the laborers.

There is not the smallest difficulty in any laboring man of this country securing credit, provided he has any sort of good security to borrow on. The most important laboring class—the farmers—all borrow incessantly to buy their farms, to stock them, to purchase implements, and to increase production. But they do it legitimately; they have saved enough to offer security. But for a set of working men in a country where the best wheat land in the world is offered them at $1 25 an acre, to demand loans of the State to purchase this, and to expect the industrious and fortunate to appropriate their savings to help those who may be idle to money which they ought to earn themselves, is disgraceful. All the artisans and workmen of Chicago have got to do is to save money while they earn high wages; to spend less on "unions" and "Kneipen" and lager-beer, and put their money into land; and then, with a small bona-fide security, they have "a right to credit" which no man can question and which is won by their own right hand. Any attempt at forced loans from City Councils or State Legislatures will only end in disaster.

EDUCATION IN THE SOUTH.

From the last census it appears there were in 1870, in all the States of the Union, 4,438,206 persons ten years of age and upward who were unable to read. This is a startling exhibit of illiteracy for a country boasting of free schools and universal education; but when we come to examine the figures more in detail, they are robbed of much of their significance. In the sixteen States of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia, comprising the former area of slave territory, the census-takers found 3,550,424 of these illiterate persons. There were consequently only 887,782 to be found in all the remainder of the country. It must also be remembered that of the total population of 38,115,641 in all the States, these sixteen States contained only 13,347,614. It can hardly be necessary to comment on these figures. A population of 24,768,027, blessed with all the advantages of free public schools, had only 887,782 illiterate persons, while a population of 13,347,614, deprived of these advantages, had 3,550,424 such persons. This comparison tells the whole story.

With these facts placed beyond dispute on the official records of the nation, the people of the Southern States should not hesitate to make some decisive movement in favor of general education. While slavery lasted public safety was found in the ignorance of the populace. The slaves, of course, could not be permitted to gain knowledge, and it was almost equally dangerous to allow the class known as poor whites to become enlightened. A barbarous social system necessarily rested on a basis of ignorance, and the severe laws of the Southern States against imparting knowledge to the servile classes were simply a logical consequence of this fact. But the excuse for these laws disappeared in the storm of battle. Eight years have elapsed since the restoration of peace and the extirpation of slavery. During the most of that time, it is true, society has been in a chaotic condition, and men have been occupied to a large extent in adjusting themselves to new conditions. It is also true that the energies of the South have been more or less occupied since the war in the strife for mere physical existence. The destruction of fortunes, disintegration of labor, and exhaustion of all resources were so general that everybody was for the time absorbed in the task of finding food and shelter.

But it is now time for the South to look to the future, and to prepare its people for the new era upon which they have entered by providing the means for general education. There are few signs as yet that the public men of those States are aware that there is urgent need for action in this matter, and the few which can be found are therefore the more welcome. One such can be seen in a bill pending in the North Carolina Legislature to authorize cities and towns of more than 2,000 inhabitants to establish and maintain free public schools. It is by no means an extreme measure, for it only provides that the authorities of these towns may at any time of their own motion, and shall at the request of any twenty voters, submit to a popular vote whether or not free public schools shall be established and maintained within the city or town by a tax upon the property, credits, and polls within the corporate limits. It will be seen that this proposed law does not establish free schools, but merely permits each community to decide whether or not they shall be established. Yet such has been the prejudice in the South against popular education that we are forced to accept this incomplete and unsatisfactory measure as a sign of substantial progress in the right direction.

There is good reason to believe that public opinion in North Carolina goes much further than this contemplated law. The bill was more than sustained by a public meeting in Raleigh, at which sensible conclusions were reached. This meeting was composed of the intelligence and taxpaying power of the city, and not only was there a general desire for public schools, but a decided opinion was expressed in favor of such legislation as will enable the City of Raleigh to support by taxation an efficient system of public graded schools equal to any in the land. It is encouraging to know that the influential citizens taking part in this meeting are fully aware of the lamentable condition of the South in regard to education. It was declared that "probably three-fourths of the children are growing up in mental darkness, and many are learning nothing but how to do evil." The advantages of education were happily stated, and the necessity for taxation in support of public schools was distinctly admitted as the only way to insure success.

This North Carolina measure, even joined with the spirit displayed by the Raleigh meeting, is nothing more than a sign of promise. As a beginning it is excellent, but the South must soon go much further. A general system of public schools must be established in all the States, without asking any particular community whether it will have the means of education or not. Only by the adoption of this policy can the South expect to make a better showing for intelligence in the next decennial census. In some of the States the proportion of illiterates to the population is alarming. Taking the six States where it is most significant, we have this table:

	Population.	Illiterates.
Alabama	968,992	349,771
Arkansas	484,471	111,799
Florida	187,748	66,338
Louisiana	726,915	257,184
Mississippi	827,922	291,718
South Carolina	705,606	265,892

It is an axiom of politics that a free government can be secure only when it rests upon an intelligent people. It cannot be pretended that it is secure in States where so large a proportion of the people are ignorant. It is true these figures show nearly the worst aspect of the case, as they contain all persons over ten years of age, and it may be presumed that many are children who afterward acquire at least the art of reading. But the best aspect is not much better. In any view of the subject which can be taken, it is apparent that the chief need of the South is education. It must be met by a general establishment and a generous maintenance of free schools.

THE LAST OF A FAMOUS SECT.

The name of Joanna Southcott, seventy years ago, was an exceedingly familiar one in London. By some the bearer of it was called a maniac, by no less than 100,000 others she was looked upon as prophetess and priest. Born in 1750, this woman, until her fortieth year, was a domestic servant, and then suddenly burst upon the world as the herald of a new Christian belief. She claimed supernatural powers, issued marvelous prophecies, which had been revealed to her in dreams, and for over twenty years was the leader of a sect known as the Southcottians, which excited the laughter of the most incredulous and the amazement of the more impressionable. The prophetess beguiled her followers by the assurance of the advent of a second Shiloh. Shortly before her death, which occurred in 1814, she announced that she herself would give birth to the object of all her believers' hopes. Her death without any such result was, of course, a great disappointment to her 100,000 followers, who rapidly disappeared, perhaps to seek other means of relieving themselves of their superabundant religious enthusiasm. The cause of Joanna's death was proved to be dropsy, and to such an extent had this unconscious humbug imposed upon the world that medical treatises from the most eminent physicians of the time were written upon the subject of the demise of the "dropsical maniac of Gillingham."

A few weeks ago a tragedy occurred at a house called the "Royal Manger," in Walworth, London. A man had committed suicide after attempting to murder his step-daughter. It was found that the "Royal Manger" was the home of the last of the Southcottians, and that the death of the suicide left only one believer in the famous second-birth theory. When Joanna Southcott died, she had either bequeathed her mantle to, or it had been assumed by, a woman named Wood, who at the death of the prophetess was thirty-eight years of age. This woman, now at the age of ninety-six, is the priestess of the "Royal Manger." Not alone is she the inheritress of the gifts of Joanna Southcott, whatever these may be, but she claims the gift of special functions to herself. In 1848 Mrs. Wood, being then a widow with a daughter, married again. She was over seventy years of age at the time, but the bride-groom was a cooper named Peacock, and only about twenty-five. Peacock was a Southcottian, and doubtless considered it an honor to be wedded to the Elisha of Joanna. In the lapse of years, the sect dwindled away until the dwellers in the "Royal Manger" came to be its only professors. Indeed, Mrs. Peacock's daughter, by her first marriage, was, at least, partly a skeptic; in her own words, she "could not quite take it all in." But there came a disciple, in the shape of an old soldier, from Ireland, who had been converted by a dream, and who joined the Peacock ménage, and assisted Mr. Peacock in the cooperage. These three—the old crone, her husband, who might have been her grandson, and the ex-warrior, turned cooper and disciple—lived on their quiet life in Walworth, waiting and hoping. Mrs. Peacock daily protested that the demolition of Satan's power would soon arrive, and the triumph of the saints immediately ensue. Under all other systems, which were good in their degree, the old priestess averred Satan had been allowed to go up and down in the earth. She had his "indictment" ready, and a jury of twelve saints would literally "sit upon him." The poor old creature never gave up her belief, but has been expecting its consummation every hour.

This remnant of the Southcottians had no bigotry in them. They attended the parish church or the meeting places of any denominations, only claiming to themselves a front place in the future contest with Satan. About twelve months ago, things began to go wrong with this forlorn little band of believers. In the language of the unbelieving daughter, "the visions dropped off," and poor Peacock became impressed with the conviction that, spite of the trenchant "indictment," Satan had got the better of him, and was watching without intermission to carry him off. The unfortunate man's mind was clearly upset; but instead of sending him to a lunatic asylum, his wife and step-daughter determined on keeping him among them. For ten long months they watched lest he should lay violent hands on himself. One night he evaded their vigilance at last. Left alone for a moment, he sprang out of bed, and was rushing down stairs when he met his step-daughter. Wildly apostrophizing her as the Satan he dreaded, he seized and attempted to kill her. As she, stunned, fell to the ground, he darted to a closet, and there cut his throat with a razor. Of the self-inflicted wound, the hapless believer in the second birth died the next morning. The daughter of the priestess, since her recovery, has become more skeptical than ever. The husband is now a confirmed heretic, and the successor of Joanna Southcott remains the solitary believer in her own prophecies, and the representative of one of the most remarkable "religious" delusions of the age.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

A correspondent of the San Francisco *Chronicle*, who writes from Honolulu under date of Nov. 26, gives some particulars concerning the withdrawal of King Lunalilo of his proposition for a reciprocity treaty with the United States. He writes:

"King Lunalilo on the 14th of November notified United States Minister Henry A. Pierce, through the Department of Foreign Affairs, of his Majesty's withdrawal of the proposition of the treaty of reciprocity formally made last July, giving as his reasons that some eight months had elapsed since the cession of Pearl River Harbor, in connection with reciprocity, was first publicly discussed, and over four months since a direct proposition to negotiate upon that basis was communicated by authority, notwithstanding which, it was not yet known whether or not the Administration at Washington were favorably disposed toward the measure. His Majesty's advisers had also become convinced that a treaty of reciprocity with the United States, upon the basis of cession of the Pearl River, would fail to get the support of the Legislature. Our Minister, acknowledging the receipt of the letter, refrained from making any further response to the reasons given for withdrawal, and only gave, as his opinion, for the apparent delay of the United States Government in its decision, that it was due to the great importance of the subject, requiring time for the final decision, and also the interruption of the mails between San Francisco and Honolulu. The advice of the Ministry having been carried into effect, they promptly resigned; but, at the urgent solicitation of the King, withdrew their resignations. There was considerable astonishment and indignation manifested by the public when the action of the King and his Ministry became known. There appears to be a suspicion among the natives, that the reciprocity treaty would eventually result in annexation, while the foreign element, led by the Chamber of Commerce, has spurred the Government to adopt the treaty without delay. While the overtures to the treaty have been going on, nothing has been done to Pearl Harbor, which has been invested or risked, save discussions on the subject. So far as we can learn, no harm will result to individuals by the withdrawal of the treaty, but it cannot be denied that the action of the King and his Ministry has shown a lack of statesmanship and diplomacy."

THE MOBILIZATION OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

The *Golos* publishes a long article on the steps taken by the Government at St. Petersburg to insure a rapid mobilization of the Russian Army in case of war. "Since the campaign of 1870-71," the writer says, "the Prussians have again improved and completed their system of mobilization, and it is to be inferred that in future the German Army will be even more rapidly mobilized than before. This circumstance makes it important for us Russians to know what has been done by our military administration to make the army ready for the field when war breaks out. * * * The experiments made since 1871, by order of the Minister of War, for the purpose of ascertaining in how short a period the reserves could be called in, furnish sufficient information on this point. The period fixed for calling in the reserves and giving them a certain amount of superficial drill is twenty-one days, and the troops can only be made ready for the field at the expiration of that period. But in the Prussian Army twenty-one days are sufficient, not only for assembling and drilling the troops in each district, but also for concentrating them on any point at the frontier. Moreover, during actual warfare even the limit of twenty-one days would in Russia have to be exceeded. In the experimental mobilizations which have hitherto taken place the authorities have been careful to inform every man who was called in for service that he would only be required for a few weeks. Under such circumstances the men liable to serve leave their villages without delay; but in case of war they would not throw up their ordinary occupations without making arrangements which would necessarily take up some time. * * * It should also be borne in mind that both the civil and the military authorities will be much more busy in time of war than during peace, and that they will consequently not carry out the mobilization with such rapidity; besides which they will not be able, as now, to furnish the men with conveyances to the place of meeting, as these will be required for other military purposes. * * * The above circumstances will probably render the period of mobilization in Russia twice as great in time of war as in time of peace. The percentage of those who either come too late or not at all, would also be greatly increased during war." According to the official reports in the *Russian Invalid* of the experimental mobilization in the Government of Saratoff, the men assembled at the head-quarters of the district in from three to eight days, and eight per cent. of those called in were missing. In all probability this period would be extended.

MODERN BERLIN.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says: "A German traveler, writing of England in 1833, contrasted the deafening noise in London streets with the stillness of the City of Berlin, where the cries of children at play were the most obtrusive sounds which met the ear. All this is now changed; and it will soon be necessary, according to a German paper, to relieve the rapidly-increasing traffic in the streets of Berlin by underground railways, for the Police are almost unable to cope with the exigencies of the case. It is calculated that in Berlin, a city containing a population of 900,000, there is a daily circulation of no fewer than 19,800 horses employed in the conveyance of goods, and of 1,200 riding-horses, 3,650 droskies, 135 omnibuses, and 360 tramway omnibuses and carriages, which provide means of locomotion for the inhabitants of the capital and of the 14,000 strangers who daily arrive at and start from the seven railway stations in Berlin. Besides these, 1,200 carts and 2,200 trucks drawn by dogs pass through the gates of the city twice a day. The practice, alike condemned by humanity and expediency, of using dogs for purposes of draft, will, it is said, speedily fall into disuse under the new Police regulations just issued on account of the thronged condition of the thoroughfares in Berlin."

THE FORREST LEGACY.

The will of Mr. Forrest held a clause providing for a home for aged and infirm actors and actresses, and the Trustees, under the charter for the home, held a meeting in Philadelphia on Tuesday last. There were present, W. R. Stekley (ex-officio) James H. Cartis, and J. W. Forney, and the Executors, Daniel Dougherty, of Philadelphia; James Lawson, of New-York; James Oakes, of Boston; John H. Michener was absent. The following permanent officers were elected: Jas. Oakes, President; N. B. Browne, Treasurer, and Jas. H. Castle, Secretary. The board remained in session several hours, and adjourned to reassemble at the call of the President. "Forrest Home" is to be located on the "Spring Brook" estate of the deceased, two miles from Frankford, sixty acres of which are set apart for the purpose. After the settlement of the affairs of the deceased, including the claim of Mrs. Sinclair, all the residue of the property is to erect the buildings for the cultivation of the grounds, and general management of the endowment, under the control of the above-named trustees.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

BY GRACE GREENWOOD.

DEC. 21, 1873.

They have been and gone, at least the great majority of them, our beloved Congressmen, and we must worry along without them through the holidays. There was for a time circulating a wild rumor that they would give themselves no holiday in these distressful times. The Senate, with high Roman virtue, declined to concur in the House resolution for adjournment. The country was suffering, and they would suffer with her, sacrificing on the altar of economy and retrenchment the immemorial roast turkey and plum pudding. But they gave way at last before the persistence of the larger and noisier body. And it is well. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and of all things let not dullness invade the halls of Congress. Surely anything but dull have been our times of late. The discussion of the Salary bill has given infinite entertainment to the people, though not of a very elevating sort. It has rather suggested the bear-baitings of old England and the bull-fights of Spain. I was not here in the height of the fun and the fight; but I witnessed the death of the old measure and its glorious resurrection in the new bill. I certainly risk nothing in saying that this whole discussion has been a humiliating and discreditable affair, that the general tone of it has been unworthy honorable men and honest legislators. It has been frivolous and acrimonious; an arrogant defiance of public opinion has alternated with the most obsequious demagogism. The criminations and recriminations, the charges and counter-charges, the base insinuations and damaging retorts, the exhibitions of anger, hate, rapacity, cowardice, and other unlovely human passions have made that pit of legislation seem—well, further off from heaven than ever before. Yet there are good men down there—men who desire to think and do right, yet who cannot think as we do, and cannot act as we would have them. In times like these it must be hard to give back money obtained by any means short of highway robbery in beinousness. The very proposition to have it "covered into the Treasury" has a melancholy and mortuary sound. I can but feel for them in their bereavement, and am thankful that when Providence, in its inscrutable wisdom, created me a woman, it shut me away from such fiery trials. Better shiver outside, in the eternal chill of disfranchisement, than be sweated and basted in this manner. To some of my personal friends, whom I now find dismayed and demoralized, and marveling at "how great a matter a little fire kindleth," I am tempted to say "I told you so," and to remind them that last Winter they laughed at my Cassandra-like warnings. Now it is, "What shall they do to be saved?" Some of them seem to be, at the best, in something like Capt. Macheath's absurd dilemma. Between popularity and pay they cry:

> "How happy could I be with either,
> Were t'other dear charmer away."

Really now, it is always hard to disgorge, beside its being an undignified and ungraceful act. Think of Cleopatra being compelled by popular Egyptian clamor to throw up that pearl. On the whole, I would rather they would keep the money, and resolve to go to work and earn it, and promise never to do so again. True, you may say that the money does not rightly and really belong to them, but, somehow, they have got to thinking it does, their wives have become reconciled to it, and their children cry for it. Now, the newspapers have so often stated and restated that I have town lots in Duluth, that I begin to believe it myself, and to swell with the feeling of a rich landholder, though I never beheld Duluth, and know nothing more of it than Proctor Knott told us in his funny speech of three years ago, though I never paid for the lots and never expect to be able to pay for them.

The House presented to me on my return an unfamiliar aspect. The new furniture and carpets have brightened it up somewhat, but the strange forms and faces bewilder me. I missed the old land-marks—Banks, with his two-story head and soldierly figure; Farnsworth, with his frothy beard tossed in air; and Oakes Ames, with his heavy face and his slow, elephant eyes. On the Democratic side there is not so much change. We miss the uplifted face of Brooks, pallid and troubled and disdainful, but the New-York Democracy has evoked Samuel to fill his place, and Don Fernando still sits buttoned up to the chin in elegant proprieties, still bears aloft his snow-wreath of a mustache, while the belligerent Beck keeps his old stand in the aisle, and pitches forward into every debate. Ohio still leaves us her urbane Garfield, and has sent us back her Lawrence, who will "never give up the ship" of State, any more than Mrs. Micawber would desert Mr. Micawber.

At one of the front desks of the middle aisle sat, on Wednesday morning, a peculiar figure, the sight of which strangely moved my heart. It brought back scenes of long ago, of another régime—almost, it would seem, of another world. Most vividly it recalled days and nights of a memorable long session in Congress, during which the discussion of the old compromise measures shook the country and nearly shattered the old capital. It was the figure of Alexander H. Stephens, the nervous, impassioned little orator, toward whom, during that troublous time, I often looked from the little loft of a gallery, and to whom I listened with profound interest, though he seldom uttered matter to my mind on the question of questions, slavery. He is less changed than I thought to find him, for in the old time he had an air of premature age and feebleness, and seemed to be wasted by the intense flame of his own restless and fiery spirit. He used to wear as wide a collar as Mr. Clay, only it was a turn-down, and a long black neck-tie, simply knotted and falling. Now the collar is narrower and the neck-tie shorter, and on his round, compact head, which was always too small for his hats, he wears a black velvet skull-cap, revealing a light fringe of hair, white with "the Winter of his discontent." His keen eyes are masked behind glasses; he walks on crutches, moving very slowly; but the princely will and the high, quick spirit, seem quite unsubdued, as is shown by his repeating, the other day, substantially the speech he made on the question of salaries before he went of the Union—reminding one of the man who had his skull broken in an explosion, and lay insensible for many days, but who, as soon as the trepanning process was commenced, proceeded to finish the sentence he had begun at the moment of the accident. With what amazement and admiration must Mr. Stephens have watched the late free-and-easy debates—how his mind must have gone back to the dark days of bondage, to the arrogant old days of Democracy and the duello, when a man was held responsible for hot, hard words, in the House of Representatives, as elsewhere; when he was not allowed to free his mind in debate, unless that mind was in a decently sane and moral condition; when honorable gentlemen could not indulge themselves in the use of such little epithets as "thief," and "ass," and "liar," and "dirty dog," without danger of being not only turned out, but "called out." In view of the glorious liberty in which our legislators now revel and riot, he must see that our blood and treasure were not expended for naught in the great war, and haply feel consoled for the desolation of the South.

The Senate is less changed from last session than the House. We miss the ruddy benignity of Mr. Wilson's face, and Mr. Carpenter seems to have grown a little gray, under his new dignity and responsibility. Time also has shaken his dredging-box over the heads of Senators Sumner and Fenton, and chiseled a little at Senator Lot Morrill's fine face, and taken the other Morrill by the shoulders and bent him slightly, for he never can harm his face, and dimmed a keen ray or two in Senator Cameron's pleasant ambushed eyes, but he has no meddled with Senator Brownlow in the least. He sits just as he has always sat, in his silent unrest, lying back in his arm chair, with half-shut eyes, one foot on his desk, and shaking neither more nor less. It is evident Time has forgotten the fierce old man, or has left the parson and the palsy to fight it out. New upholstery, painting, and gilding have also made this chamber and the ante-chambers look bright and comfortable; but there is one change which I must disapprove of, as undemocratic and invidious. Choice seats have been set apart for the wives and daughters of Senators and members, from which seats we, the common people, are as sternly excluded as from the diplomatic gallery. This is unjust to the strangers visiting the Capitol, who are often uncomfortably crowded in the other galleries while those aristocratic reservations are almost empty. It is my impression that of all the ladies in Washington, those for whom these galleries are set aside, dedicated, tabooed, are the least given to watching the debates. Perhaps they have politics enough at home. The wife of a Congressman seldom goes to the Capitol unless her husband is the hero of the hour; she goes to see him arraigned for high crimes and misdemeanors, or to hear him arraign some other woman's husband.

Outside the Capitol the changes are still more manifest. All the buildings on the condemned square have been demolished save Sanderson's old hotel. That stands alone. Its preservation is a signal and significant evidence of the conservatism of Congress and the mercy of the B. P. W.

The general aspect of things about the capital is much improved, however, and we hope we have almost reached the beginning of the end in the way of street improvements hereabouts. Yes, on Capitol Hill, (outside the Capitol,) folks are taking heart of grace, and trying to be clean and respectable once more.

AMUSEMENTS.

OPERA AT THE ACADEMY.

A fine performance of "Aida" was witnessed at the Academy of Music last evening. Each recital of the opera improves upon its predecessor, and now that Verdi's work has had about a dozen representations, its rendering by Mr. Strakosch's artists can be declared well-nigh perfect. Yesterday's rehearsal was uncommonly effective. The frequenters of the Academy have become thoroughly acquainted with "Aida," and as the composer has achieved in his latest effort something far more durable than was previously to be laid to his credit, the increased acquaintance begets increased admiration. Thanks to the many beauties of the opera, to its faultless rendering, and to its characteristic and superb *mise en scène*, Mr. Strakosch has added to his répertoire a work which, in our judgment, could have a steady "run." "Aida," however, will be sung but once more before the company depart on a six weeks' tour. Its last performance occurs at the Saturday matinée, when Signor Campanini, M. Maurel, Signor Nannetti, Miss Cary, and Mlle. Torriani will appear. Mme. Nilsson's farewell takes place to-night; she is then to personate *Lucia*, in "Lucia di Lammermoor," M. Capoul essaying *Edgardo*.

THOMAS' SYMPHONY CONCERT.

We have to correct one line in the programme for Mr. Thomas' second and highly-promising symphony concert, which may be attended at Steinway Hall to-morrow evening. Instead of Joachim's "Hungarian" concerto, to be played by Mr. Bernhard Listemann, that gentleman and Mr. S. F. Jacobsohn will interpret a concerto for two violins, by Spohr.

EXTRACTS FROM HAVANA PAPERS.

DROUGHT IN SAGUA LA GRANDE—A BULL-FIGHT—THE PRESS ON THE VIRGINIUS.

We translate the following from our Havana files, received per steamer City of Havana, last evening:

The Sagua la Grande correspondent of the *Diario de la Marina* writes under the 18th inst: "The great drought through which we are now passing is trying indeed, as the greater part of the crops of corn, rice, and vegetables has been completely lost. It will also materially influence the crops of the sugar estates that have no cane left over from last year, as the growth of the rattoons and the newly-planted cane has been too much retarded."

Under the head of "A Patriotic Performance," the same paper announced that a grand bull-fight would take place in the Havana bull-ring, on the 21st inst., the net proceeds of which were to be given for the troops in the field. This performance was dedicated to his Excellency the Captain General, who was to honor the spectacle with his presence, by the First Batallion of Volunteers of Havana. Six bulls were to be fought, and beautiful and elegant decorations for the same were to be furnished by six Havana ladies. The *Diario* adds that it believes that the public will contribute liberally in order to obtain the desired result.

The same paper, in its edition of the 19th, under the heading "It is True," says editorially: "In corroboration of the news which we gave in the last edition of to-day's *Diario*, we are assured that the Government at Washington has recognized the fact that the steamer Virginius had no right to carry the American flag. After this recognition there should not remain the least doubt that the Virginius was a fair prize; that her crew were pirates, and that the Spanish tribunals had full authority to punish them as such, and that all the demands of the Government of the United States have been trivial and without foundation. We now await the reparation the said Government should make to Spain, and we also await the several reclamations which ought to be made by the Spanish Government."

The following is from the same paper: "The office of the *Diario de la Marina* was entered and robbed between 2 and 3 o'clock this morning, the robbers scaling the balcony at the corner of the building. They cut out a number of the slats of the Venetian blinds and entered the rooms in the right wing of the edifice, in the last of which the safe stands, and in which Mr. Stanislas, the manager, sleeps. He was surprised, blindfolded, and securely bound, and, menaced with a dagger held at his breast, was compelled to give the combination of the look of the safe. After they had opened it and taken a large sum of money it contained, they ransacked and plundered a wardrobe which was in the same room.

An hour afterward, one of the clerks of the *Diario*, who had been out to get a cup of coffee, ran against the rope, which had been left dangling from the balcony. He immediately gave the alarm, and the Police, on entering, found Mr. Stanislas and his nephew, who sleeps in the same room, securely bound, their faces covered with thick handkerchiefs, and each tied to his bed-post. All that was found was a new dagger on a table in the front room, the saw with which they had cut through the blinds lying on the balcony, and the rope hanging over the railing."

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

The Winona (Minn.) *Republican* reports that an actual case of spontaneous combustion happened at the Huff House, in that city, a few mornings ago. Some of the hired girls, who had been oiling the furniture with linseed-oil, put the cloths, which they had used, into a small wooden box, upon top of which, as a cover, was laid a pasteboard box. A few days afterward fire was discovered in the box, and an examination disclosed the cloths burning and a hole already burnt through the pasteboard box.

PERSONAL.

Judge Frank Fuller, of Salt Lake City, is at the Sturtevant House.

Hon. William Loughridge, member of Congress, of Iowa, is at the Grand Central Hotel.

State Senator elect Frank Abbott, of Port Jervis, N. Y., is at the Hoffman House.

Prof. Ezra Abbot, of Harvard College, and Prof. H. B. Hackett, of Rochester, are at the Everett House.

Col. A. G. Brackett, United States Army; Gen. William Mahone, of Virginia; Judge S. Burke, of Cleveland, and Judge R. E. Andrews, of Hudson, N. Y., are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

ACCIDENT TO A HARLEM STEAM-BOAT.

Yesterday afternoon, as the Harlem steam-boat Morrisania was coming down the East River, she ran on a rock at Hell Gate and was partially disabled. Some of the passengers, becoming alarmed, were taken off in small boats. The Morrisania made her way to her destination, and arrived in safety at her dock, foot of Fulton slip.

VACATING ASSESSMENTS.

A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE SUBJECT.

THE EXTENT OF THE LAWYERS' OPERATIONS —THE FIRMS ENGAGED IN THE WORK— —HOW THE BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED.

As already stated in THE TIMES, there are upward of sixty firms of lawyers in this City who have made the vacation of assessments a specialty of their business, and there is scarcely a property-owner in New-York who has not received their circulars as regularly as those sent out by mercantile houses. The matter does not end even here. Yesterday a TIMES reporter happened to be in the Governor's Room in the City Hall, where the Bureau of Assessments is at present located, when Mr. Samuel Enagle, from Yorktown, Va., entered, to inquire if the assessment had been increased on his property in Sixty-first street. He produced a circular from the firm of Oakley, Neville & Andrews, the same that was referred to in a previous article, offering to undertake to have it vacated, on the terms already stated. This will afford a fair illustration of the extent to which the business is carried by the lawyers, and the systematic manner in which it is conducted. The temptation thus placed before property-owners, to get rid of honest obligations, becomes so powerful that only men of high character, who would scorn to take advantage of any mere legal technicality to evade their legitimate responsibilities, are found to stand aloof from these disreputable subterfuges. So general, however, has the practice become among some of the largest property-owners in the City, that several gentlemen, who have always paid their taxes without hesitation, have recently stated that if the system is permitted to continue they could not in justice to themselves pay their assessments much longer, but should seek exemption on the same grounds as their neighbors. Whole pages of the assessment books are covered with entries against men of high social standing, who refuse to pay for the improvements effected on their properties, and every day the difficulty of collecting is increasing in the department. Mr. Astor is at present engaged in a suit to vacate an assessment of some $120,000 in connection with the widening of Broadway, and during the last twelve months there has been a larger number of assessments canceled by order of the Supreme Court than on any previous year.

THE EXTENT OF THE LAWYERS' OPERATIONS.

The following list of attorneys employed in vacating assessments, with the several amounts set aside by each in the Bureau of Arrears from 1859 to 1872, inclusive, will show the extent of their operations:

Devolin, Miller & Trull	$306,016 08
T. F. Neville	221,947 30
Johnson & Ward	102,766 31
Abraham R. Lawrence, Jr.	101,213 17
Porter, West & Deering	60,288 40
Anderson, Adams & Young	56,254 39
Clarence G. Mitchell	18,976 16
Charles E. Miller	37,913 95
S. B. Higginbotham	13,679 50
A. M. Burr	13,376 07
Genet & Peet	9,097 84
J. Brice Smith	8,742 51
P. A. Hargous	8,425 01
Stanley & Brown	8,404 15
James A. Deering & A. E. Johnson	8,192 55
Pierrepont, Stanley & Langdell	7,709 02
John Ely	6,472 46
Henry Magin, Jr.	6,535 72
Henry Bodenheim	6,052 07
E. R. Bogardus, D. Evans & D. Still	3,755 62
Thomas Hooker	3,601 12
Francis M. Scott	3,204 79
T. H. Baldwin	2,562 43
Oliver W. West	2,270 17
Quinn & Rogers	2,046 91
N. Kettell	1,652 78
Daniel O'Conner	1,645 26
Kaufman Simon	1,584 52
Martin & Smith	1,509 09
Ernstein & Murphy	1,385 11
M. S. Isaacs	1,190 78
Robert C. Embree	1,086 51
J. J. Townsend	965 55
H. T. Anderson	947 41
A. Cardozo	938 96
E. E. Anderson, P. G. Gaze, Nicholas Quackenbush, Irving & Ward, St. H. Ward, Jr., Joseph C. Shaw, Joseph M. Patten, Mann & Parsons, W. C. Trull, G. W. Wingate, C. J. Devitt, A. Brown, Bliss & Cadwallader and others	65,890 30
Total	$1,098,250 87

This is only a portion of the $2,099,300 27 set aside within the same period. The remaining $1,001,049 40 was saddled upon the City through the same agency, and so far from decreasing, month after month the number of orders sent to the Controller from the Supreme Court are on the increase. The clerks in the Bureau of Collection of Assessments can hardly reach upon the amount of business forced upon them by the wholesale system of canceling assessments, while in the Bureau of Arrears the labor is still greater. The shelves of these two departments are bending beneath the weight of those legal documents by which the tax-payers of the City are bequeathed a legacy of debt not their own. Should matters go much further, a separate bureau must be established and some fifty or sixty new clerks appointed to keep pace with the action of the Supreme Court. And is it to be supposed that an organization of some 200 lawyers, who find such a wide field for the exercise of their legal acumen in a business which has proved to be so profitable, can be shaken in their influence over that particular class of property-owners who look more to the practicability of any scheme for enriching themselves than to its legality? It is only men who are imbued with a high sense of honor and integrity who refuse to commit their interests, in the matter of these assessments, to the care of the lawyer who forwards his agreement for signature, and who asks nothing in return for his labors but a percentage on the profits in the event of a successful issue of the case. The demoralizing influence of such a system upon the middle and lower class of property-owners cannot be overestimated, and if not checked in due time must lead to the perversion of every sentiment of moral rectitude. If our citizens are given to understand that the laws under which they live are so defective that the most glaring acts of dishonesty can be perpetrated in the name of justice, how can it be hoped that such laws will be respected? And yet so long as this system of vacating assessments is permitted, it must follow inevitably that the lawyers and property-owners will continue to profit at the expense of the citizens. So long as this system lasts, the poor man who owns a small lot must be taxed for improvements effected upon the properties of our wealthiest citizens, although it would be just as reasonable to ask him to pay the tailor's bill for Mr. Astor's last suit of broadcloth.

HOW IT IS DONE.

That such a large number of lawyers should be engaged in this line of business is not much to be wondered at when we consider the extraordinary facilities with which they are enabled to pass the cause of their clients and their own through the courts. To collect the records of all the special pleading of the firms above named during the past ten or twelve years, by which over two millions have been thrown upon the City, would be a task for which the intrinsic value of these documents would hardly be sufficient compensation. A single case taken at random from the thousands of suits brought up in the courts will be quite sufficient to prove either the adroitness and ability of the lawyers, the laxity of the Judges, or what is most probably the case, the existence of special enactments contrived by the Tammany thieves for the purpose of legalizing all manner of fraud and sheltering under the sanction of the Legislature every species of public plunder.

John Cummins, a contractor residing at No. 248 East Sixty-first street, has stated that, some years ago the inhabitants of the neighborhood convened public meetings, and requested him to co-operate with them in bringing the condition of the street before the Common Council, with a view of having the necessary improvements effected. Petitions were drawn up, signed by the property-owners of the entire district, and presented to the board, praying that an ordinance be passed to have the street paved with a stone block pavement. They finally succeeded, and the street was paved. But did ever these property-owners pay for the work which they succeeded in having accomplished at their own special request? Not at all. They held meetings again when the assessments were laid, for the purpose of vacating them, and looked upon Mr. Cummins as an unworthy citizen because he refused to join in their fraudulent schemes. They employed the lawyers, and the assessments were, of course, vacated, by order of the Supreme Court.

Hundreds of instances of a similar character could be given to show the manner in which this business is carried on year after year. It is well known that the trap-block pavements are so beneficial to merchants whose stores are situated in streets paved in this way, that they save a large sum annually in the wear and tear of the horses and wagons engaged in conveying freight to the depots, three months' carting on stone pavements causing more damage to both than the same number of years of constant traffic would occasion on wooden pavements. This is so well understood by freight carriers who drive their own teams that they will go several blocks out of their way to pass through thoroughfares such as Broome street. Yet instances could be multiplied in which those who have profited most by these trap-block pavements have claimed exemption from paying the tax levied for their construction.

Heretofore the vacating of assessments would appear to have been practiced only by a certain class of property-owners. The names constantly coming up in these suits were always the same. This year, however, there has been a very large accession to the ranks of those claiming exemption from taxation. Formerly the lawyers were placed at the disadvantage of having to set up a single case to stand upon its own merits, while most of the other property-owners were content to accept the legitimate results of the improvements effected in their districts. Now, however, the case seems to be very much altered. Some citizens of position and influence in society is singled out if he does not freely come forward, and his name is placed foremost in the list of those praying to be exempt, and then follows a numerous train of smaller property-owners, all joining in the same tone of supplication.

Take the following order, now lying in the Bureau of Collection and Assessments, as an instance in which large assessments were vacated on the 13th of the last month for trap-block pavement in Forty-sixth street, between Second avenue and the East River, and in which Alderman Clausen takes the lead: The petition of Henry Clausen, E. Miller, H. Roche, F. Kroehle, John Roth, Owen Flaherty, Erastus Barnard, David Jones, John H. Hoenick, Thomas Patten, Christopher Reinath, Anna Gillig, Ferdinand Spangenberg, H. Wadewitz, D. Reiderman, Severin Meyer, Joseph Kollman, Frederick Schwann, Catherine Lorsan, Frederick Rohdi, Joseph Mayer, John C. Christ, George Strauss, Shauss, Weiner & Co., Jacob Reicker, John Ryan, &c.

Then follows a list of the ward and block numbers in which the assessments have been canceled, and a statement showing the grounds on which the exemption was claimed.

No attempt is here made to cast discredit either upon any particular firm of lawyers, or to single out any particular class of petitioners. The instances given are taken at random from a whole pile of documents, and the object is to arouse the tax-payers of the City on the subject by showing them the extent and the power of the organization they have to contend against in any effort to secure remedial legislation.

There is one corporation in this City which has never been known to seek exemptions from the responsibilities of its immense wealth. Trinity Church has paid taxes in districts where all others assessed availed themselves of the legal technicalities refered to in order to evade their assessments. The property of Trinity is managed by a vestry of five persons, who are vested with authority to conduct all the affairs of the corporation, and it speaks well for the credit of the institution that under no pretext whatever has a single dollar of the heavy taxation laid upon the property been thrown upon the City.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

RECENT DECISIONS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The following decisions have been rendered:

No. 170.—*Grant* vs. *Strong.*—Appeal from the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.—This was a proceeding to inforce a builder's lien claimed by Strong upon sixteen houses partially erected for Grant. The builder refused to go on with the work, because, as alleged, he was not paid according to contract. A promissory note which had been given him to apply on the account was not made good at maturity, and he accordingly quit work, and sought to enforce his lien. The decree below was in his favor, and the case is appealed, Grant claiming that his lien cannot be enforced because the plaintiff has refused to perform his contract; and that, as the note given him was negotiable, received as payment under agreement, and he had transferred it, he could not claim not to be paid. Meloz & Miller for appellants; W. A. Cook for appellee.

No. 172.—*United States ex rel. Lewis et al.* vs. *Boutwell.*—Error to Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.—This was a proceeding in mandamus to compel the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the Choctaw Nation of Indians $500,000, under the act of March, 1861, in pursuance of the treaty with them of June, 1855. The relators hold a draft drawn on Secretary Chase for half of the sum, which was not honored, and which was subsequently presented for payment, under an act of March, 1871, authorizing the payment by the Secretary as directed by the act of 1861. The court below held that the Secretary could not be directed in this manner to perform an act which was within his official discretion, and that this act was within such discretion, because the Secretary was called upon to ascertain the proper authorities of the Choctaw Nation before he performed the official act of payment. It is here maintained that the relators are the lawful holders of the draft drawn by the delegates of the nation, and that the holder is the proper party to receive the money; and that the act of Congress had recognized the "delegates" as the authorized agents of the nation. These facts were conclusive of the right to the process asked. R. M. Carmine for relator. No appearance for the Secretary.

No. 173.—*Cooper* vs. *Omohmoro*—Error to the Circuit Court of Virginia.—This was an action to recover for work done in Cincinnati, for Cooper's testator, who lived in Virginia, under a contract made after the 26th April, 1861. The defense was that the contract claimed was void, being made after the commencement of the war, between citizens of Virginia and Ohio; that if not void it was executory and was terminated by the war. It was also urged that if valid it was too indefinite to be executed; and that in any case, no interest could be recovered during the war. The court ruled that the effect of war upon such contracts did not invalidate them until after the act of Congress so declaring. It is here urged that war *ab initio* terminates all lawful intercourse between citizens of the belligerent countries, and that such was to effect in this case, although Congress had not so enacted. J. M. Carlisle, J. D. McPherson, and James Lyons for plaintiff; W. W. Crump, for defendant.

No. 177.—*Allen et al.* vs. *Ferguson.*—Error to Circuit Court for Tennessee.—The question in this case is whether the court erred in sustaining a demurrer to a replication to the plea of discharge in bankruptcy, when the replication does not aver that a new promise, relied on, was made after the defendant was decreed a bankrupt, and not merely pending his petition. The writ of error claims that it was error. A. H. Garland for plaintiff. Clark and Williams opposed.

CURIOUS LAWSUIT.

Two mill-owners on the Wissahickon Creek, above Chestnut Hill, engaged in a curious lawsuit, which was decided last week at Norristown, Penn. The Philadelphia *Ledger* describes the case as follows: "The mills are three-quarters of a mile apart, and the stream between them has not much fall. In 1823 the owner of the upper mill brought suit against the owner of the lower mill for having backed the water up into the race-course of the upper mill. Under a decree of the court, the Sheriff put up four permanent marks to establish the lawful surface of the water. At two places holes were drilled in fixed rocks, a marble stone was set in the tail race of the upper dam and properly marked, and a pin was driven into a buttonwood-tree just thirty-one inches above the surface at the breast of the dam. The mills have changed owners since that time, but recently the race of the upper mill has been overflowed by back water, and the owner brought suit for damages. Careful surveys were made, and the water was found to be four inches above the marks in the fixed rocks and on the marble slab, but exactly thirty-one inches from the plug that had been driven into the buttonwood-tree forty-eight years ago. The question for the jury to decide was whether the upper mill and rocks sunk four inches, or whether the base of the buttonwood-tree had been lifted that much. Notwithstanding ingenious arguments to show that trees only expanded in size and sent out new growths from the extremities of branches, the jury, composed of farmers or those bred in the country, decided that the buttonwood-tree had been elongated, by giving a verdict for the plaintiff for $150. Counsel for the defense will file reasons for a new trial."

SENATOR HAGAR, OF CALIFORNIA.

Judge John S. Hagar, of San Francisco, who has been elected by the Legislature of California to fill Mr. Casserly's unexpired term in the United States Senate, is a native of New-Jersey, and is about fifty years old. Emigrating to California in 1849, he entered upon the practice of law. His ability and success soon brought him into prominence, and in 1854 he was elected Judge of the Fourth District Court for six years. Many important suits, including litigations growing out of the failure of prominent California banking-houses, were disposed of in the tribunal over which he presided. After retiring from the Bench he was elected a member of the State Senate, where he was instrumental in effecting many needed reforms in the civil and criminal laws of the State. Those who know him say he will bring to the United States Senate great experience in public affairs, sound judgment, and a varied and extended fund of knowledge. He is a Democrat, and inclined to favor the doctrine of State rights. He supported McClellan and Seymour for the Presidency, and has always taken a quiet but positive interest in the local affairs of the party.

FALL OF A GYMNAST.

Mons. Leotard, the gymnast, who has recently been performing at the theatre in Salt Lake City, Utah, met with an accident there on the 13th inst., which the Salt Lake *Tribune* thus describes:

"A crowd of several hundred persons assembled in front of the theatre yesterday afternoon, at 1 o'clock, to witness the performance of Leotard, the gymnast, who, it was announced, would walk a tight rope extended from the theatre building to the top of a building on the opposite side of First South street. At the appointed hour the gymnast appeared, pole in hand, dressed in tights, and evidently shivering with cold, as the air was raw and keen. Sixteen guy ropes were attached to the main rope at regular intervals, and were drawn tight by persons in the crowd, instead of being properly fastened to stakes in the ground. Leotard started out from the end of the rope, but had advanced scarcely ten feet, when he slipped and fell forward on the rope. He made a desperate but futile effort to recover his balance, caught the rope between his feet and hung suspended in mid-air for an instant, head downward, and then dropped with terrible force upon the frozen pavement below, striking his face upon a wheelbarrow, which was standing beneath. He was picked up insensible, with the blood streaming from his mouth, and carried, with some difficulty, through the crowd, across the street, to the theatre. An examination showed that no bones were broken, and his injuries are not necessarily fatal. It is stated that the accident was caused by one of the men who held a guy rope releasing his hold, when the tension of the opposite line immediately jerked the rope from beneath the gymnast's feet."

SLEEP-WALKING.

The Montreal *Gazette* of Tuesday relates the following: "Between 2 and 3 o'clock yesterday morning a respectable young married female, living in the neighborhood of the General Hospital, appeared at the door of the institution and rang the bell for admittance. The female night watch, who happened to be in attendance, opened the door, when, to her surprise, a lady entered, scantily clad, her wearing apparel consisting only of a night-dress. Her eyes were open, and in her hand she held an open Bible, which, addressing the waiter, she requested to be given to one of the patients in the hospital. Thinking the woman to be insane, the watch called the House Surgeon, who, perceiving what was the matter, put a few questions to the former, when she awoke with a screech, and, finding where she was, began making the most frantic appeals for help. The doctor kindly ordered the nurse to supply her with clothes and accompany her to her house. On arriving there they found her husband in bed fast asleep, entirely unconscious of his wife's adventure."

SOUTH AMERICA.

CHURCH AND STATE—BRAZIL AND PARAGUAY.

From Our Own Correspondent.

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, Tuesday, Nov. 25, 1873.

With the order from the Government to bring the Bishop of Olinda to trial, the religious question in Brazil may be said to have come to a stand-still. Here there are none of those prompt and summary methods of procedure which prevail in Germany, but everything, especially in the legal department, moves with snail-like progress. It was in September that the Minister of the Empire directed the Crown Attorney to frame his indictment, and it is only within a few days that the President of Pernambuco notified the Central Government that the copy sent to the Bishop, in order that he might be able to arrange his defense, had come to hand. There is, then, a prospect of a still longer delay before the Supreme Court will be furnished with all the documents necessary to make up the case and enable them to pronounce a judgement. Nevertheless it must be admitted that the young prelate himself, thus far, has shown very little hesitation in his replies to the Government at any stage of this business, and there is no reason to believe that he will say *non-possumus* now with any less readiness or energy than before. The fact is, that the Bishop of Olinda has presented a very striking and imposing figure in this whole struggle, and if Pi Nono does not make him a Cardinal, then never was a brave and dauntless soldier more unjustly treated. There will, I venture to say, be no unnecessary delay on the part of the Bishop. We shall soon have his defense; and if it do not prove a bugle-blast of defiance, daring this Government to do its worst, I am greatly mistaken. But after being received it will be easy to find excuses for dilly-dallying until the Summer has passed, when with the approach of the day for the reopening of the Legislative Chambers, the Ministry will doubtless begin once more to show signs of activity. It is even said that the Government have no hope of being able to convict the Bishop on the indictment drawn up against him, and that, in fact, it would be quite willing to see him absolved. For then the Administration could throw the responsibility of the whole matter on the Chambers, and call for the passage of such legal measures as are requisite to meet the case. The Ministry in such a contingency would be able to say with some show of reason, that the country called for the trial of the Bishop for persistent and willful disobedience of the laws; that it brought him to trial but without success, and that now the Chambers must say what is to be done. It is beyond question also that Rio Brancho is ever casting his eye across the water, and confidently expecting relief and suggestions from whatever religious measures may come out of the German-Austrian-Italian alliance. The steps recently taken by the German Government against the Ultramontanes have had a great influence here on Brazilians and their rulers. Even now it is common to hear people say in conversation that it would be a thousand times better to separate the Church from the State at once, and put an end to all this trouble. It is clear that the party in favor of that radical measure is growing stronger and stronger every day.

BRAZIL AND THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

It is finally decided that there is to be no war between Brazil and the Argentine Republic. At least the fire-eating Tejedor, Sarmiento's Secretary of State, has at last condescended to give us that assurance. Brazil, consequently, may be supposed to breathe more freely. It was published in all the journals at the river that Gen. Mitre's failure to negotiate with Paraguay treaties satisfactory to his Government was due to the pernicious influence of Brazil, exerted through Magalhæs, who had been sent by the Emperor to Assumption for this very purpose. Then followed the secret sessions of the Argentine Congress, about which there have been numberless rumors. A war was to be immediately declared against Brazil; negotiations were to be opened at once with Chili to secure the co-operation of her fleet, and so on. At last the Argentine Government was asked to explain its intentions, and then it was that Secretary of State Tejedor gave assurance that no belligerent movements were intended against Brazil; that, in fact, the blessings which flow from peace were a very desirable acquisition for all new countries, and, consequently, his Government would never think of such a thing as war. This remarkable dispatch has not yet been published at the river, but as it has now appeared in all the papers of this city I presume it will soon be copied by the Buenos Ayres and Montevidean press. It means, I imagine, not that the Argentines hate the Brazilians any the less, but rather that the advocacy of a war with the Empire at this time no longer furnishes desirable capital to the three or four political parties, just now in the very heat of their struggle for the next Presidency.

THE ENTRE RIOS REBELLION.

The Entre Rios rebellion, which has been so long on its last legs, appears to have a good firm pair of pins after all. Indeed, unless there has been some very unseemly equivocation in the reports sent up here from the river, the rebels appear to be having the best of it. They have even taken the City of La Paz by assault, and Col. Gainza, who has the whole credit of the Government campaign thus far, has been sent rapidly to the right-about. Lopez Jordan, the leader of the rebellion, has many sympathizers at Buenos Ayres, and there is no doubt that the Government is not a little embarrassed in its operations by this circumstance.

PERSONAL.

Rear Admiral Taylor, United States Navy, who was lately relieved from command of the United States naval forces on this station, sails for home by the Merrimack to-day, leaving behind him hosts of friends who wish for him and his amiable lady "*toutes sortes de prospérités.*"

A LEAP FROM A FIFTH-STORY WINDOW.

Julia Wheeler, about twenty-seven years of age, jumped from the fifth story of the Powhatan Cotton Factory, at Powhatan, Baltimore County, Md., shortly after noon on Saturday last, while laboring under a fit of temporary aberration of mind. The window from which she jumped recedes some distance from the line of the windows in the other stories, and she first struck the sloping roof, and then pitched headlong to the ground, a distance of about fifty-eight feet. She seemed to have lighted upon her hands and feet, her right arm being broken in two places, and both wrists fractured. Her head was also badly cut, her skull fractured, some of her ribs broken, and it is supposed she was injured internally. Notwithstanding these serious injuries, she got up and walked around the end of the mill, a distance of about sixty feet, where she fell unconscious. A crowd collected, and she was conveyed to her boarding-house. Drs. Fields and Monmonier were summoned, who are doing all they can for her. Miss Wheeler is a tall woman, and weighs about 160 pounds. She was a modest, unassuming girl, and was regarded as one of the most steady employes of the factory. She was conscious on Monday, and stated to a friend who called to see her that she did not remember how it occurred. It has been noticed by boarders in the house with her that she has been acting in a strange manner for some weeks past, seeming to have something weighing upon her mind, and it is thought that while laboring under temporary derangement she threw herself from the window. She remembers having gone to the window, but knows nothing of having jumped out.

AN ENFORCED CONFESSION.

The town of Depeyster, in St. Lawrence County, is just now excited by an interesting case which may cause considerable litigation before the end is reached. From the account in the Ogdensburg *Journal*, it appears that the Collector of the town kept the money received upon taxes in a desk at his place of business; that one day about $50 of the tax money was stolen from the desk. A man who worked in the same building or room was suspected, and closely watched, but nothing was discovered to confirm the suspicion that he was the guilty party. He was, however, taken by a party of men, carried to the woods, and a confession extorted. Criminal action was then commenced before R. Warren, Justice of the Peace, against the party, who, upon arraignment, pleaded not guilty, denying the truth of his confession, which, he says, was forced from him through fear. The Justice held that the evidence of those who heard this forced confession was not admissible, and that a confession thus violently obtained amounted to nothing.

MYSTERIOUS CASE.

A WOMAN DROWNED IN A SHALLOW CISTERN —INSURANCE ON HER LIFE.

The drowning of a young woman at the residence of her mother, in a cistern, in Ypsilanti, Mich., on the evening of the 18th inst., is creating great excitement in that city. The Detroit *Post's* account reads as follows: "The general opinion seems to incline to the suicide theory, but many believe that could the truth be known foul play would be developed, and still others are of the opinion that it is a case of accidental death, basing their belief upon the apparent absence of any motive for self-destruction or the more dreadful act alluded to above.

The evidence laid before the Coroner's jury was very long, but left that body in such a degree of doubt that they returned a verdict of death from drowning, but without finding how or by what means the deceased got into the cistern. The fact that the cistern contained but three feet of water, and is so shallow that had the deceased stood upright upon the bottom she could have reached the opening, and is sufficiently roomy to admit of a person falling in head first to reverse himself, would seem to do away with the accident theory. In short, it is deemed possible, but improbable, that it was a case of accidental death. Still, there were no indications of foul play, and the suicide theory is gaining ground.

The deceased was nearly thirty years of age, and has passed an eventful career. Her maiden name was Barlow, and at the age of sixteen she married a man named William Stevens, a resident of Wayne. With him she lived for several years, but they lived unhappily, and six years ago they were divorced, she retaining the custody of their children, boys aged respectively seven and five years. Leaving these with her mother she went to Ohio, and it is claimed that for several months she was acting as a detective in the United States secret service, her field of operations being principally in that State and Northern Indiana. It is also stated that during this time, and since, she was a contributor to the columns of New-York literary papers, writing under the *nom de plume* of 'Rebecca Harding Davis,' but this would seem to be a case of confusion of names. In 1872 she resided in Ann Harbor, but removed to Ypsilanti the past Summer, and has since remained with her mother.

On the 20th of last month Mrs. Stevens was married at Ypsilanti to Wm. J. Robinson, a resident of Centreton, Ohio, but still remained with her mother, Robinson intending to move to Texas early the coming year. Robinson testified that his wife told him that a young man named Barr, with whom she became acquainted during her residence in Ohio, had shot at her upon three different occasions, the last time while she was living in Ann Arbor, this causing her to move to Ypsilanti, and that she was afraid that he would yet kill her. Exactly what the cause of Barr's enmity was is not known, but it is hinted that the deceased as a detective worked up a case wherein Barr was directly concerned, and the exposing of which was to his injury. Shortly after her marriage Mrs. Robinson was taken sick with bilious fever, and had not fully recovered at the time of her death, though able to be about the house as usual. Her husband was away from home at the time of her severe illness, and upon his return she told him about Barr, and that through fear of her life from him she had got her life insured for the benefit of her children. She showed him two policies, and, at her request, he placed them in his trunk. Since her death five insurance policies have come to light, as follows: $5,000 each in the Michigan Mutual, New-York Mutual and Home; $3,000 in the National, of Washington, and $1,500 in the Massachusetts Mutual. These policies were all obtained by the deceased of Ann Arbor agents, and all during the past three months—that of the Michigan Mutual being the first, and this was obtained about the middle of September. The premium notes in each case were made payable quarterly, so that on each policy but a single payment has been made. The policies are all in favor of her children, and by the terms of her will her mother is made executrix, but the custody and guardianship of her children is vested in her husband. The evidence at the inquest also shows that on Thursday evening, about 9 o'clock, Mrs. Robinson, who had been in excellent spirits during the day and evening, rose from her seat in the sitting-room, the family and two neighbors being present, and went out the back door, humming a tune. She did not return, and in a few moments Robinson went in search of her, calling her by name. Pretty soon he came in hurriedly, and said he could not find her. Mrs. Barlow went to the back door with a lamp in her hand, the others following. As they reached the door, Mrs. Barlow saw her daughter's dress through the mouth of the cistern, and Robinson pulled her out. When found, her head was beneath the surface of the water, and she was quite dead. She had been absent about five minutes when found."

ANOTHER THEORY.

The Detroit *Free Press* gives the following as the theory of the insurance men: "She was accustomed to travel, and to assuming disguises—in fact, very clever at it, and had at various times and places passed under assumed names—one of which (Mrs. Eldridge) appears in the evidence taken before Justice Crane and the jury. She was brave, too, and undoubtedly turned the pistol that the evidence of Robinson shows Barr pointed at her, and came off victor. A woman of her shrewdness soon mastered the intricacies of life insurance, and being a novelist (whether the genuine Rebecca Harding Davis or not matters little,) soon constructed a plot to better her condition. She obtained policies of insurance upon her life to the amount of $19,500, (the evidence of her husband, Robinson, speaks of $15,000, but the insurance agent to-day discovered additional policies increasing the amount as above,) and paid only the first quarter's installment, a trifling sum. Then the job of procuring the body of a dead woman, dressing it in some of her garments, and pitching it in the cistern was all that was necessary to be done in order to successfully deceive the insurance companies and recover the amount of the several policies. According to the insurance men's theory confederates were taken into the plot, who lent their assistance, obtained the body, and everything was ripe for the execution of the plot Thursday night. Preparation had been made for flight. Everything was in readiness, and the testimony before the coroner's jury shows that Texas was talked of as a future home. The examination before Justice Crane was formal, there being no reason to suspect fraud in the matter, and without any close examination the jury assumed that the body recovered from the cistern was that of May Stevens-Robinson. As such it was buried, and there the matter might have ended. The exceedingly brief time of five minutes between the disappearance from the parlor of her mother's house of May Stevens-Robinson and the discovery of a body in the cistern with life extinct aroused the suspicion of the parties most interested."

STABBING AFFRAY IN THE FOURTH WARD.

During a brawl early yesterday morning in Madison street, near Roosevelt, James O'Brien, of No. 109 Cliff street, was stabbed in the left side by a man named White, and severely wounded. O'Brien was taken to his home, and White made his escape and has not been arrested.

STABBING AFFRAY IN A BOARDING-HOUSE.

James King and Wm. Fenton, inmates of the sailors' boarding-house kept by John Wallace, at No. 24 Monroe street, quarreled yesterday afternoon, and during the fracas which ensued Fenton stabbed King in the abdomen and right arm with a sheath-knife, inflicting serious wounds. Fenton was locked up at the Madison Street Police Station.

For the Holidays

H. T. Wilhelm & Co., No. 1,152 Broadway, between 26th and 27th sts., sell their entirely new stock of China, Glass, and Earthen-ware, Clocks, Bronzes, Parians, Cutlery, Plated ware, &c., at panic prices.—*Advertisement.*

Baker's Chocolate.

A good cup of Cocoa is easily had, if you will insist on your grocer furnishing W. BAKER & CO.'S BREAKFAST COCOA.—*Advertisement.*

Don't buy an "Elastic Truss" till you have seen Pomeroy's, price $3, at No. 744 Broadway.—*Advertisement.*

Irritation of Scalp

BURNETT'S COCOANE CURES.—*Advertisement.*

Baker's Chocolate.

If you wish the best Vanilla Chocolate, get Baker's.—*Advertisement.*

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES.

THE NEW-YORK SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, published THIS MORNING, contains the very latest telegraphic and general news; editorials on matters of current interest; a page of carefully-prepared commercial matter, giving the latest financial news and market reports items of agricultural and domestic interest, and other interesting reading matter.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES may be had at the counter of the Publication Office, in wrappers, ready for mailing. Price, FIVE CENTS.

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Hair Dye! Hair Dye! Hair Dye! BATCHELOR'S celebrated Hair Dye is the best in the world. The only true, safe, and perfect hair dye. No disappointment, no ridiculous tints. Harmless, reliable, instantaneous. Sold everywhere by druggists.

MARRIED.

KLOTZ—STICKLE.—On Christmas Day, by Rev. O. S. St. John, at the residence of the bride's parents, Major SAMUEL KLOTZ to Miss LAURA, daughter of E. K. Stickle, Esq., of Rockaway, N. J. No cards.

DIED.

BROOKS.—On Thursday, Dec. 25, of diphtheria, CARRIE L., youngest daughter of Lockwood B. and Emily C. Brooks, aged 8 years, 3 months, and 25 days.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral services at the residence of her parents, No. 333 West 19th st., on Sunday, at 6 P. M., without further notice. The remains will be taken to Stamford, Conn., at 10:10 on Monday morning.

BLOODGOOD.—On Tuesday evening, Dec. 23, WILLIAM BLOODGOOD, in the 77th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 23 West 24th st., at 2 P. M., Friday, the 26th inst.

EDSON.—On Wednesday, Dec. 24, 1873, POLLY FAIRCHILD, widow of the late Wm. J. Edson, in the 85th year of her age.

The funeral services will take place at Grace Church, corner Broadway and 10th st., at 10:45 A. M. on Saturday, the 27th inst. The relatives and friends of the family, and of her sons, Tracy R. and Marmont B. Edson, are respectfully invited to attend.

FAILE.—At Sunny Hill, Wilton, Wednesday morning, 24th inst., CHARLES V., son of Charles V. and Sarah C. Faile, aged 9 months and 18 days.

The friends of the family are requested to attend the funeral from the house of his grandfather, John J. Crane, corner of 138th st. and Southern Boulevard, on Friday, 26th inst., at 3:15 o'clock P. M. Harlem Railroad cars will leave Forty-second Street Depot at 2:30 o'clock for Mott Haven, where carriages will be in waiting.

FOX.—On Thursday, Dec. 25, GEORGE FOX, in the 74th year of his age.

Funeral from his late residence, No. 115 Adelphi st., Brooklyn, on Sunday, at 1 o'clock P. M.

☞ Brattleboro, Vt., papers please copy.

GIBSON.—At Waterford, N. Y., Dec. 22, at the residence of her son-in-law, Joseph E. Enos, Mrs. MARGARET STUYVESANT GIBSON, in the 84th year of her age.

Funeral at Grace Church, Waterford, Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 2:30 o'clock P. M.

HALL.—At Savannah, Ga., Dec. 23, FANNIE R., wife of Addison B. Hall, and daughter of the late John A. Pullen, in the 34th year of her age.

Funeral services will be held at her late residence, No. 50 Fort Greene place, Brooklyn, on Friday, at 11 o'clock. The remains will be taken to Brattleboro, Vt., for interment.

HILTON.—On the 22d inst., JOHN HILTON, of this City, in the 85th year of his age.

Funeral services will be held at the Forsyth Street M. E. Church on Friday, 26th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend without further notice. The remains will be taken to Searingtown, Long Island, for interment.

JOHNSON.—Suddenly, in Brooklyn, on the morning of Dec. 25, of asthma, CAROLINE A., beloved wife of Cornelius L. Johnson, aged 46 years.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 158 Bedford av., on Sunday, Dec. 28, at 2 o'clock.

JONES.—On Wednesday evening, Dec. 24, at his residence, No. 50 South Portland av., Brooklyn, after a brief illness, SAMUEL T. JONES, Clerk of the United States District and Circuit Courts.

Funeral services will take place at the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church on Friday, the 26th inst., at 3 o'clock P. M. His remains will be taken to Wilton, Conn., Saturday morning.

KEITH.—On the 22d December, 1873, at the residence of her son-in-law, Gavin Rutherford, No. 454 West 33d st., New-York, JANE DUNCAN, a native of Kirkentelloch, Scotland, and relict of the late John Keith, aged 75 years.

☞ Glasgow and other Scottish papers please copy.

LANCASTER.—Suddenly, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, ALFRED LANCASTER, aged 55 years.

Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from No. 447 West 44th st., on Friday, Dec. 26, at 1 P. M.

MANDEVILLE.—At Orange, N. J., Dec. 23, LYDIA L., wife of Abram Mandeville, in the 66th year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, Main st., Orange, to-day (Friday,) at 1:30 o'clock.

SCHUMACHER.—Dec. 25, 1873, LILLY LOUISE, daughter of Edward and Laura Schumacher, aged 1 year and 6 months.

The funeral will take place quietly Friday afternoon, on account of other serious illness.

SHERMAN.—Dec. 23, LAVINIA J., youngest child of Geo. W. and J. L. Sherman, aged 8 weeks.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral from the residence of her parents, No. 11 Abingdon square, Friday, at 12 o'clock.

VAN ARSDALE.—Wednesday morning, Dec. 24, in New-York City, after a very short illness, ROBERT VAN ARSDALE, counselor-at-law, of Newark, N. J., aged 66 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend his funeral at the First Presbyterian Church, Newark, N. J., at 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon, without further notice. Train (Newark and New-York Railroad) leaves at 1 o'clock, foot of Liberty street.

VREELAND.—On Christmas morning, HARRY G., only child of Nicholas G. and Catharine E. Vreeland, aged 2 months and 21 days.

Relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral on Saturday, Dec. 27, at 2 P. M., from the residence of his parents, corner of Bergen and Orient avs., Jersey City.

CORINTHIAN LODGE, No. 488, F. & A. M.—Brethren: You are hereby summoned to attend a special communication of the lodge, for the purpose of attending the funeral of our esteemed brother, GEORGE JEWETT. The brethren will meet at 9 A. M., (sharp,) on Saturday, the 27th inst., at the lodge-room, No. 135 West 30th st. Brethren of sister lodges cordially invited.

GEORGE G. S. DAVIDSON, W. M.
GEORGE F. THORNTON, Secretary.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

APPLETONS' JOURNAL FOR 1874.

APPLETONS' JOURNAL is a Magazine of weekly issue, devoted to popular literature, science, art, education, and social development. Its characteristic feature is comprehensiveness; the purpose being to furnish a periodical which will give, in addition to an abundance of entertaining popular literature, contributed by writers of acknowledged standing, a thorough survey of the progress of thought, the advance of the arts, and the doings in all the higher branches of intellectual effort. Ten cents per number; $4 per year.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

STREET LAMPS.

Extract report, Board of Public Works, City of New-York: "Lamps of the old pattern beyond repair are replaced by the BARTLETT LAMP, 'Boulevard' pattern, which, while a little more expensive, are much more *durable, ornamental, and give a better light.* These lamps have been in use in the City for a year past, and have given great satisfaction." Lamps furnished and fitted up upon application to J. W. BARTLETT, 569 Broadway.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

The mails for Europe for the week ending SATURDAY, Dec. 27, 1873, will close at this office as follows: On WEDNESDAY at 7 A. M., on THURSDAY at 10 A. M., and on SATURDAY at 5:30 A. M. and 12 M.

T. L. JAMES, Postmaster.

R. STUART WELLS, ATTORNEY AND Counsellor at Law, Notary Public, No. 153 Broadway. Room No. 4, New-York.

ITALY.

THE NATIONAL FINANCES—POSITION OF THE POPE.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ROME, Tuesday, Dec. 2, 1873.

The Minister of Finance has made his report to Parliament the past week, but he has given to the public no important fact that was not before pretty well known. The deficit for the past year is more than 100 millions of francs, and it will not be less for the succeeding twelve months. Indeed, as has before been stated, it will reach the sum of 130 millions. There is a general desire to have more expended upon the navy, the present annual outlay being only the modest sum of 36 millions francs, or 7 millions of dollars. The cost of the army and the military land defense is somewhat more than 30 millions of dollars. To this is to be added three or four millions of dollars annually for extraordinary expenses in that department. The details of the condition of the public finances of this country can have but little interest to the generality of American readers, as probably but a very small part of the public debt of Italy is held in the United States. But as real friends of the new Kingdom, we shall all rejoice when, at length, the report is received that the public revenue no longer falls short of the demands annually made upon the Treasury of the State. The time may be yet for some years prolonged, but if the peace is kept, it will be sure to come at last, and the united nation will find in its renovated finances a new source of strength.

THE POPE'S POSITION.

Three years ago the Pope was tried and convicted of infallibility, but the severer trial is that which has come after. The juridical figure may be kept up by adding the fact that the Pope, after the sentence was passed upon him by the Jesuits, has been kept by them a "prisoner" in the Apostolic Palace. It is one of the curious coincidences and contrasts which the whirligig of history brings as it rattles over the rough road which we all have to travel. The ill-humor in the Vatican toward the Italian Government does not grow less, as we have every day new proofs; but at the moment the clerical enemies of Italy hardly know which way to turn for encouragement. We are believers in a Divine Providence acting intimately in all the relations of the moral universe. As well as punishments for the bad, we believe that this Providence has many good things in reserve for the future of the human race. But, according to the teachings of the Papacy, God has spoken his last word, and the Church puts forth the profane assumption that Providence cannot introduce into human society any new meliorations without the consent of the Pope. All progress is called revolution, to which word the Church has given the worst possible significance, putting quite out of sight the fact that the blessed Savior was the leader and chief of one of the greatest revolutions the world has ever seen. The Church has quite lost faith in God and man, and those moral principles which the Creator in His infinite benevolence has never allowed to become wholly inactive in the hearts of His creatures, even in the worst condition of the race. The Church reposes its confidence in that system of concrete truth which has taken form in a mass of dogmas, established by councils and the decrees of Pontiffs. According to its assumptions, God cannot save a poor penitent Jew, or Asiatic, European, or African Pagan, without the oil, holy-water, and the other appliances of the Roman Catholic establishment—although these Pagans may number twelve hundred millions of the population of the world; or four-fifths of the human race.

MOVEMENTS OF DIPLOMATISTS.

The Count Corti is now in Rome, but we do not hear that any change is to be made in the Italian Legation at Washington. The Marquis De Noailles is expected to come here, and M. Fournier, the French Minister for the past two years, may be his successor at Washington. Great satisfaction is expressed here at the honorable manner in which Count Corti, not less than Count Sclopis, has acquitted himself in the delicate position of International Judge and Arbitor, to which he was called in the decision of the questions between the English and American Governments.

THE PROMOTION OF ARBITRATION.

We have had in Rome the past week Mr. Dudley Field, Mr. Richards, M. P., and Rev. Dr. Miles, with their hobby of doing away with wars by the general adoption by the nations of the principle of arbitration. Action was taken in the Italian Parliament approving the object in view, and at a meeting held in the Hall of the Conservatori on the Capitol Hill, a national committee for Italy was elected, to be in correspondence with the organizations already existing in several countries of Europe. The directors of affairs in Italy embrace readily and with warmth the plan by which a prospect is opened for settling peacefully any questions that may arise with neighboring powers. The expenses of an international jury are less than the cost of a week's armament, without taking into account the enormous economy of human life. Signor Mancini, one of the Vice Presidents of the convention lately held at Brussels, and one of the most active and able members of the Chamber of Deputies, has been the leader in Italy of this movement. The American and English promoters of the scheme, now here, have been received with many marks of respect and honor. A few nights back a public dinner was given for their entertainment at the Albergo Di Roma, by some of the most conspicuous members of the Italian Parliament. Mr. Richards, M. P., spoke in English in reply to one of the toasts, and, a little to our surprise, Mr. Dudley Field made a speech in very good Italian—at least so good that the *Opinione*, in speaking of it, said: "*Il Signor Field parlò brevemente ma elegantemente in Italiano.*"

THE WINTER SEASON.

The Roman Winter season is now fairly entered upon, and a goodly number of foreigners are already in the hotels and furnished apartments—among them the usual proportion of Americans. The places for the religious services for foreign visitors are now open every Sunday, among them three in which American worship is held. Thanksgiving Day was taken notice of by religious exercises in those places, and by various dinner-party reunions, at one of which—at the Hotel Costanzi—something like seventy came together. The Young Men's Christian Union, under the direction of Rev. Mr. Waite and other Americans, opened its second season in Rome by a breakfast party at their rooms, at which twenty or more sat down. The gentlemen promoters of international arbitration now here were among the guests. Speeches were made in a tone of language calculated to promote, first of all, union and Christian fellowship between the English and American branches of our great family coming together for the Winter in Rome. A. J. J.

THE COAL TRADE.

The Pottsville (Penn.) *Miners' Journal* of Saturday says: "The quantity of coal sent to market for the week was, by rail, 69,173 tons; by canal, 2,003 tons; for the week, 71,176 tons, against 71,270 tons for the corresponding week last year. The quantity sent for the week from all the regions was 223,386 tons anthracite, and 46,110 tons bituminous; for the week, 269,496 tons, against 284,844 tons for the corresponding week last year; decrease for the week, 15,348 tons. The whole supply from the regions embraced in our table for 1873, so far, is 22,194,274 tons, against 20,833,772 tons for the corresponding period last year; increase, 1,360,102 tons, of which 759,200 tons is anthracite, and 600,897 tons bituminous. The trade keeps up remarkably well for the season, and there is still some demand for coal for the line. It is, however, beginning to slack off, as the year draws to a close. The mild weather is also affecting the retail trade in our cities to some extent."

VICTORIA.

ENGLISH ENTERPRISE IN KANSAS—MR. GEORGE GRANT'S NEW COLONY.

Mr. George Grant, a wealthy English capitalist, recently purchased a large tract of land in Kansas for colonization, known as Victoria, and situated on the line of the Kansas and Pacific Railroad, between Salina and Denver.

Kansas is one of the most fertile States of the Trans-Missouri country, and the district in which Mr. Grant's colony has been established is possessed of extraordinary resources, and offers a wide field for agricultural enterprise. These regions, which were once known as the American Desert, are covered with luxuriant grasses, springing from a soil from four to twenty feet in depth. The water supply is ample, the country being traversed in many places with rivers and streams, while at all times it can be found at a depth ranging from fifty to 175 feet. It is believed that large subterranean streams flow under the vast plains stretching from the Rocky Mountains to the Mississippi, which can be reached and made available, and it is a well-ascertained fact that the rain belt has been yearly extending in width. Under these circumstances, it is confidently anticipated that in the course of time these great plains will teem with the rich cultivation of forests and waving grain.

But to effect this change great skill, combined with large capital and a vast expenditure of labor, will be needed. Mr. Grant has undertaken this task in the colony of Victoria, and when other capitalists witness the success which must attend his energy and persevering industry, the work of colonization must rapidly extend itself in these regions. He owns 550 square miles in the new colony of Victoria, and is possessed of ample resources. New-York capitalists have purchased ten square miles of these lands, and will commence the work of reclamation in the Spring, and several wealthy English and Scotch gentlemen are at present entertaining the prospect of making large purchases. One London capitalist has already secured a large tract of land, and will send over stock and agricultural laborers early in the Spring. A number of smaller purchases of from one to five square miles have been also made, and the work of improvement will be pushed forward without delay.

Mr. Grant has now 2,400 sheep, 100 Cotswolds, and 45 Biscathrope rams of the Kirkham breed, which sell in England for $200 each. He has 8 short-horn bulls and 4 black Aberdeenshire bulls of the highest pedigree, and 150 Cherokee cows. Next Summer he expects to have 100,000 sheep upon his vast farm, besides 10,000 cattle of superior quality. Some ten days ago he sailed for Europe, and early in the Spring he will bring over several families from England and also a large importation of cattle. He recently purchased the entire stock of Mr. Charles Clinch, of Wakefield, Kansas, and such is the superiority of his cattle generally that he has taken all the first prizes wherever he has exhibited them at the annual fairs this year.

During the summer season Victoria was visited by a number of English gentlemen, who speak in very flattering terms of the climate and resources of these regions. Mr. R. Scot Skerving, President of the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh, and formerly President of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, and others who examined the nature of the soil and the quality of the grasses springing up on those vast prairie lands, have born testimony of the adaptability of these pastures to maintain numerous flocks and herds. The soil consists chiefly of a rich, dark-brown sandy loam, of considerable depth, which is capable of producing every kind of grain. The land is entirely free of stones, but limestone suitable for building purposes is abundant in several parts of the property. Good water for household use is generally found at a depth of from ten to forty feet. The Kansas Pacific Railroad passes through Victoria, thus securing a ready market for every description of produce, and affording communication with every part of the United States.

The health of the inhabitants in this part of Kansas will bear favorable comparison with the sanitary records of any other part of the country. Next Summer a church will be erected and also a commodious school-house. Upward of a thousand acres of prairie lands were broken up last Spring, but the settlers arrived too late in the season to do any profitable farming. Next year 50,000 acres will be plowed, and agricultural operations upon a large scale will be inaugurated. Large tracts of land will be planted, farms will be reclaimed, and the existence of the colony will be felt for miles along the country.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH TUNNEL.

The London *Times* of Dec. 12 says: "At the ordinary weekly meeting of the members of the Institution of Civil Engineers, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., Mr. Hawksley, the President, being in the chair, the paper read was "On the Geological Conditions Affecting the Construction of a Tunnel Between England and France," by Mr. Joseph Prestwich, F.R.S., F.G.S., Assoc. Inst. C. E. The author, in this paper, reviewed the geological conditions of all the strata between Harwich and Hastings, on one side of the Channel, and between Ostend and St. Valery on the other side, with a view to serve as *data* for any future projects of tunneling, and to show in what direction inquiries should be made. The points considered were the lithological characters, dimensions, range, and probable depth of the several formations. The London clay at the mouth of the Thames was from 200 feet to 400 feet thick, while under Calais it was only 10 feet, at Dunkirk it exceeded 264 feet, and at Ostend it was 448 feet thick. He considered that a trough of London clay from 300 feet to 400 feet or more in thickness extended from the coast of Essex to the coast of France. Judging from the experience gained in the Tower subway and the known impermeability and homogeneity of this formation, he saw no difficulty from a merely geological point of view in the construction of a tunnel, but there was a difficulty in the extreme distance, the nearest suitable points being eighty miles apart. The lower tertiary strata were too unimportant and too permeable for tunnel work. The chalk in this area was from 400 feet to 1,000 feet thick; the upper beds were soft and permeable, but the lower beds were so argillaceous and compact as to be comparatively impermeable. In fact, in the Hainaut coal-fields they effectually shut out the water of the water-bearing tertiary strata from the underlying coal measures. Still, the author did not consider even the lower chalk suited for tunnel work owing to its liabilities to fissures, imperfect impermeability, and exposure in the channel. The gault was homogeneous and impermeable, but near Folkestone it was only 130 feet thick, reduced to 40 feet at Wissant, so that a tunnel would hardly be feasible. The lower green sands, 260 feet thick at Sandgate, thinned off to 50 feet or 60 feet at Wissant, and were all far too permeable for any tunnel work. Again, the Wealden strata, 1,200 feet thick in Kent, were reduced to a few unimportant rubbly beds in the Boulonnais. To the Portland beds the same objection existed as to the lower green sands—both were water-bearing strata. The Kimmeridge clay was 360 feet thick near Boulogne, and no doubt passed under the channel; but in Kent it was covered by so great a thickness of Wealden strata as to be almost inaccessible; at the same time it contained subordinate water-bearing beds. Still, the author was of opinion that in case of the not improbable diminution of the Portland beds, it might be questionable to carry a tunnel in by the Kimmeridge clay on the French coast, and out by the Wealden beds on the English coast. The oolitic series presented conditions still less favorable, and the lower beds had been found to be water-bearing in a deep Artesian well recently sunk near Boulogne. The experimental deep-boring now in progress near Battle would throw much light on this part of the question. The author then passed on to the consideration of the Palæozoic series, to which his attention was more particularly directed while making investigations as a member of the Royal Commission on the probable range of the coal measures under the south-east of England. He showed that these rocks, which consisted of hard Silurian slates, Devonian and carboniferous limestone, and coal measures, together 12,000 feet to 15,000 feet thick, passed under the chalk in the north of France, outcropped in the Boulonnais, were again lost under newer formations near to the coast, and did not reappear until the neighborhood of Frome and Wells was reached. Although not exposed on the surface, they had been encountered at a depth of 1,039 feet at Calais, 985 feet at Ostend, 1,026 feet at Harwich, and 1,114 feet in London. They thus seemed to form a subterranean table land of old rocks, covered immediately by the chalk and tertiary strata. It was only at the southern flank of this old ridge that the Jurassic and Wealden series set in, and beneath these the Palæozoic rocks rapidly descend it to great depths. Near Boulogne these strata were already 1,000 feet thick, and at Hythe the author estimated their thickness might be that or more. Supposing the strike of the coal measures and the other Palæozoic rocks to be prolonged from their exposed area in the Boulonnais across the Channel, they would pass under the cretaceous strata somewhere in the neighborhood of Folkestone, at the depth estimated by the author at about 300 feet, and near Dover at about 600 feet, or nearly at a depth at which they had been found under the chalk at Guines, near Calais, where they were 665 feet deep. These Palæozoic strata were tilted at high angles; and on the original elevated area they were covered by horizontal cretaceous strata, the basement beds of which had filled up the interstices of the older rocks as though with a liquid grouting. The overlying mass of gault and lower chalk also formed a barrier to the passage of water so effectual that the coal measures were worked without difficulty under the very permeable tertiary and upper chalk of the north of France; and in the neighborhood of Mons, notwithstanding a thickness of from 500 feet to 900 feet of strata charged with water, the lower chalk shut the water out so effectually that the coal measures were worked in perfect safety, and were found to be perfectly dry under 1,200 feet of thin strata combined. No part of the Straits exceeded 186 feet in depth. The author, therefore, considered that it would be perfectly practicable, so far as safety from the influx of the sea water was concerned, to drive a tunnel through the Palæozoic rocks under the Channel between Blanc Nez and Dover, and he stated that galleries had actually been carried in coal under less favorable circumstances for two miles under the sea, near Whitehaven. But while in the case of the London clay the distance seemed almost an insurmountable bar, here again the depth offered a formidable difficulty. As a collateral object to be attained, the author pointed to the great problem of the range of the coal measures from the neighborhood of Calais in the direction of East Kent, which a tunnel in the Palæozoic strata would help to solve. These were, according to the author, the main conditions which bore on the construction of a submarine tunnel between England and France. He was satisfied that, on geological grounds alone, it was in one case perfectly practicable, and in one or two others it was possibly so, but there were other considerations besides those of a geological nature, and whether or not they admitted of so favorable a solution was questionable. Granting the possibility of the work in a geological point of view, there were great and formidable engineering difficulties; but the vast progress made in engineering science during the last half century led the author to imagine that they would not prove insurmountable if the necessity for such a work were to arise, and the cost were not a bar. It was announced that the discussion which has been commenced would be resumed at the meeting of Tuesday next, the 16th inst.

AFFRAY AT AUBURN.

A KEEPER IN THE PRISON DANGEROUSLY STABBED BY A CONVICT.

John Caughlan, a Sing Sing transfer, employed in "Shoe 2" at the Auburn Prison, made an attempt upon the life of Keeper Frank S. Sims, of Syracuse, on Monday afternoon. The *Advertiser* says that Caughlan and foreman Hennessy had some words together, which ended in Caughlan threatening to strike Hennessy. Relief Keeper Perkins thereupon took Caughlan to the desk, and delivered him to shop-keeper Sims, a former keeper in the Onondaga Penitentiary at Syracuse. Mr. Sims ordered Caughlan to sit down, which he refused to do, and instead attempted to move off in another direction. Sims seized him by the shoulder to enforce his command, when the convict quickly drew a shoe-knife from his pocket and gave Sims a thrust in the lower part of the abdomen, left side. Sims then struck him over the head and shoulders with his cane, and Caughlan ran in among the men who were at work at their benches. But he gained no sympathy from his fellow-convicts, and Sims collared him and marched him toward the Keeper's Hall, but meeting Principal Keeper W. M. Thomas on the way, he delivered his prisoner to the latter, who had him safely confined in a dungeon. Keeper Sims then retired to the hospital, and was attended to by Drs. J. D. Button and C. L. George. The wound was probed and found to be about 2½ inches in depth and 1½ inches in width; but little blood was lost. It is considered an exceedingly dangerous wound. The symptoms are, however, more favorable than otherwise. Caughlan, who is but sixteen years old, was sentenced March 21, 1873, to fifteen years' imprisonment, for robbery, first degree. He was transferred to Auburn April 4.

BURNING OF CIRCUS PROPERTY.

By the burning of some of the buildings in Germantown, Penn., in which were stored much of the property of Adam Forepaugh's circus and menagerie, a loss of nearly $100,000 was incurred. The fire occurred on Saturday evening last. The buildings destroyed were of wood, and consisted of one 130 feet long and 32 feet wide and one story high, formerly used for quartering the animals belonging to the menagerie, but lately used for the storage of wagons, cages, tents, &c., and one end for a carpenter shop; and another, 130 feet long and 50 feet wide, and two stories high, known as the "ring barn," in which was a ring for exercising the performing horses during the Winter, and in the second story of which was stored about twenty-two tons of hay. These two buildings were connected by an open shed 82 feet wide and 130 feet long. The fire originated in the harness shop at the end of the "ring barn" and was first discovered at the elbow of the stove-pipe near the ceiling, over which was stored the hay. The fire gained headway very rapidly, and in less than half an hour all the buildings mentioned were destroyed, with their contents. The property destroyed consisted of all the canvas, seats, ropes, poles, chandeliers, &c., pertaining to a large and complete circus and menagerie; four fine wagon horses, valued at $1,200; twenty animal cages, which cost from $500 to $1,500 each; a large band chariot, which cost originally $4,500, and on which $500 had recently been expended for repairs; ten baggage wagons, costing from $300 to $400 each; one trunk wagon, two buggies, two carriages, harness for 120 horses, all the pack saddles, side saddles, entry bridles, and other trappings used in ring performances; all the wardrobe, consisting of procession coats, entry suits for knights, &c.; all the banners, elephant and camel covers, flags, plumes, &c., used in street displays; seven cages of museum figures, consisting of seven automatic bell-ringers, the Siamese twins in wax, life-size, double-headed girl in wax, automatic drummer, the intemperate family, three pieces, life-size, in wax; four automatic gymnasts in wood, one cage of stuffed fish, one cage of stuffed birds, one cage of stuffed animals, two wax figures of Napoleon, two of Von Moltke, two of Charles Dickens, two of Marshal Bazaine, two of the Emperor Napoleon, wax figures of Fisk, Stokes, and Miss Mansfield, automatic bleating goat, automatic dancing "Jim Crow and Mrs. Jim Crow," five statuettes in marble and metal, a cage of armor, and various miscellaneous articles. The loss, as far as can be estimated, is about $100,000, of which the principal items are: Buildings, $7,000; hay, $450; harness and equipments, $3,000; wardrobe, $4,000; wagons and cages, $85,000; horses, $1,200; canvas, rope, seats, &c., $12,000; tools, leather, &c., in saddler shop, $1,000; tools, stock, &c., in carpenter shop, $1,500; portable stables, mangers, racks, &c., $2,000. Mr. Forepaugh has an insurance of $70,000 on his entire property, about forty per cent. of which, or $28,000, is applicable to the portion destroyed. The performing horses and ponies were all saved.

AN ABSCONDING CASHIER HEARD FROM.

The Poughkeepsie *News* says that a letter from Charles H. Horton, late Cashier of the Wallkill Bank, at Middletown, Orange County, written to a former business associate, dated, but with no address, stated that in running away he chose the last of three alternatives, the other two of which were Sing Sing and suicide; that he landed with little money in a strange land, where he went into a good paying business, and expects to be worth $50,000 in two years, but will not return until he can bring enough to pay his debts, to do which, and to redeem all his past errors, he says, is now the earnest purpose of his life. Horton is believed to be in South America.

THE REAL ESTATE MARKET.

For to-day, Friday, Dec. 26, the following sales are announced, all legal, and all at the Exchange:

By Hugh N. Camp, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, Theodore F. Miller, Esq., Referee, of a house and lot, north-west corner Fifty-third street, north side, 100 feet east of Eighth avenue, lot 18.9 by 100.5.

By James M. Miller, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, N. Jarvis, Esq., Referee, of the four-story, Mansard roof, iron bank building and lot, on Bleecker street, south-west corner of South Fifth avenue, lot 25 by 123.

By Wm. Kennelly, Supreme Court foreclosure sale of a plot of land, in size 76.6 by 98.9, on East Twenty-second street, north side, 354.6 feet east of First avenue, and a plot 75 by 98.9 on East Twenty-third street, 344 feet east of First avenue, in rear of above.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE—WITH POSSESSION MAY 1, 1874, the extra-wide and first-class banking building, Nos. 112 and 114 Broadway, adjoining the Metropolitan Bank, corner of Pine st.; the lot is about 37x100 feet, covered by a marble-front six-story building, with large and complete vaults on the first and second stories, built up on solid foundations from sub-cellar; has steam engine under front sidewalk giving steam heat throughout the building; the first floor, about level with the sidewalk, and the second floor, are especially adapted for banking or insurance business. This property can be delivered on the 1st of May next, if sold before Feb. 1, ensuing. HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st.

FOR SALE AT PANIC PRICE—BROWN-stone house and lot; three story, high stoop, 16.8x50; lot, 100 feet; all the improvements; high ground, near the Park entrance; the cheapest house on the west side; 58th st., near 9th av. J. W. STEVENS, on the premises, or 47th st., North River, or No. 6 Pine st., at 2 P. M.

FOR SALE—THE EXTRA-WIDE LOT AND BUILDing, No. 401 Broadway, north-west corner of Walker st.; lot about 29x103; particularly suitable for a bank; price asked, $175,000; possession May 1 next. HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

THREE PLANTATIONS FOR SALE NEAR Savannah, Ga.—A sea-island cotton plantation of 1,350 acres; another of 700 acres, both within eight miles of Savannah on the main land; a rice plantation of 360 acres on Savannah River, within nine miles of the city. For particulars, inquire of S. U. ODELL, No. 24 Beaver st.

ORANGE, N. J.—COUNTRY HOUSES, LANDS and village lots for sale; a great variety. Also, furnished and unfurnished houses to let for season or year, by WALTER E. SMITH, formerly Blackwell & Smith, Orange, corner Main and Cone sts.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

OFFICES TO LET IN TIMES BUILDING. SPLENDID OFFICES TO LET IN THE FIRE-PROOF TIMES BUILDING. Apply at TIMES COUNTING-ROOM.

TO LET OR LEASE—THE EXTRA WIDE AND deep (about 30x200) store, No. 501 Broadway, through to Mercer st., first floor, basement and sub-cellar; $16,000 per annum. Inquire of HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st., or JOHN LLOYD'S SONS, No. 7 Warren st.

BROOME ST., CORNER GREENE.—TO LET, first floor and basement, 50x100, in this desirable building; basement 12 feet high, well lighted, and dry; terms easy to a responsible tenant. Apply to H. C. PEDDER, Arnold, Constable & Co., No. 309 Canal st.

DWELLINGS TO LET.

TO RENT—TILL OCT. 1, 1874, TO A PRIVATE family, a completely furnished and first-class four-story full-size house on Stuyvesant square, 15th st. and Rutherford place, and near St. George's Church. HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st.

FINANCIAL.

ROBINSON, CHASE & CO., BANKERS, NO. 18 BROAD ST., NEW-YORK. Transact a general banking business in all its details, allowing interest upon deposits to BANKS, SAVINGS INSTITUTIONS, PRIVATE BANKERS, AND INDIVIDUALS. Particular attention paid to the investment of ESTATE AND TRUST FUNDS, AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE SAME FURNISHED UPON APPLICATION. Buy and sell upon commission GOLD, UNITED STATES STOCKS, and all securities dealt in at the N. Y. Stock Exchange. First-class Municipal and Railroad loans negotiated. EUGENE N. ROBINSON, THOMAS B. ATKINS, GEORGE H. CHASE, WILLIAM T. MORRIS.

TO INVESTORS. BUFFALO CITY 7 PER CT. WATER BONDS. INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL PAYABLE AT THE GALLATIN NATIONAL BANK. PRINCIPAL DUE 1893. For sale by DANIEL A. MORAN, NO. 40 WALL ST.

INVESTMENT. LAKE SHORE AND MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY SINKING FUND BONDS OF 1882. A Limited Amount for sale at 87 1-2. ROBINSON, CHASE & CO., BANKERS, NO. 18 BROAD ST.

John J. Cisco & Son, BANKERS, No. 59 Wall street, New-York. RECEIVE DEPOSITS, subject to check at sight, on which INTEREST is allowed at the rate of FOUR PER CENT. per annum. Checks drawn on us are received on deposit by all the City banks. CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT issued, payable on demand, with interest. GOVERNMENTS, GOLD, STOCKS, and BONDS bought and sold on commission. DRAW BILLS on LONDON BANKING ASSOCIATION and GERMAN BANK OF LONDON. BUY AND SELL EXCHANGE ON LONDON.

Geo. Opdyke & Co., BANKERS, No. 25 Nassau-st., New-York. ACCOUNTS OF BANKS, BANKERS, CORPORATIONS, FIRMS, AND INDIVIDUALS SOLICITED. DEPOSITORS ENJOY THE SAME ADVANTAGES AS WITH INCORPORATED BANKS—FOUR PER CENT. ON DAILY BALANCES, CREDITED MONTHLY. COLLECTIONS MADE AT LOWEST RATES. INVESTMENT SECURITIES A SPECIALTY.

N. Y. CITY 7s, DUE 1876 AND 1900. N. Y. COUNTY 6s, due 1889. BROOKLYN 7s, due 1883 and 1921. GEO. K. SISTARE, No. 24 Nassau st.

FOR SALE, 7, 8, AND 10 PER CENT. CITY AND COUNTY BONDS, RAILROAD BONDS, CITY RAILROAD STOCKS, And other choice Stocks and Bonds, paying 10 to 20 per cent., at low rates, for sale by ALBERT H. NICOLAY & CO., No. 43 Pine st., New-York. N. B.—Investment securities our specialty 22 years.

PROPOSALS FOR $4,210,497 55 CONSOLIDATED Stocks of the City and County of New-York, for the purpose of providing means for paying the Bonds of the City and County, maturing Jan. 15, 1874.

Sealed proposals will be received at the Controller's Office until TUESDAY, Jan. 6, 1874, at 2 o'clock P. M., for the whole or any part of four million two hundred and ten thousand four hundred and ninety-seven dollars and fifty-five cents, viz.:

Consolidated Stock of the City of New-York, authorized by section 2, chapter 756, laws of 1873; section 4, chapter 444, laws of 1872; and chapter 322, laws of 1871	$3,390,497 55
Consolidated Stock of the County of New-York, authorized by section 3, chapter 756, laws of 1873; section 4, chapter 444, laws of 1872; and chapter 323, laws of 1871	820,000
Total	$4,210,497 55

Interest at seven per cent. per annum, payable on the 1st day of June and December in each year, and the principal will be redeemed on the 1st day of December, 1890.

Each proposal should be sealed and indorsed "Proposals for Consolidated Stocks of the City and County of New-York," and inclosed in a second envelope addressed to the Controller.

For full information, see advertisement in the *City Record*. ANDREW H. GREEN, Controller. CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, Controller's Office, Dec. 23, 1873.

NEW-YORK CENTRAL AND HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1873. PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT this office till noon on SATURDAY, the 3d of January next, for THREE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, in the First Mortgage Bonds of this company. These bonds will be issued in the form of COUPON BONDS of $1,000 each, or of REGISTERED BONDS of $5,000 and $10,000 each, bearing interest at seven per cent., payable on 1st of January and 1st of July; principal due in 1903. The MORTGAGE by which they are secured is a FIRST LIEN upon the entire railroad property and franchises of the company. Each proposal should be sealed and properly indorsed, and should state the kind and denomination of bonds wanted, and the name in which registered bonds are to be issued should be accurately given. Each must be accompanied by a check for a sum equal to FIVE PER CENT. on the amount of the bid, such sum to be applied toward payment in case of acceptance, and to be returned in case of rejection. The bonds will be ready for delivery on SATURDAY, Jan. 10, at this office, when and where the balance must be paid. The company reserves the right to reject all proposals offered. C. C. CLARKE, Treasurer.

ROBERT WINTHROP & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS, NO. 18 WALL ST. Execute orders for STOCKS, BONDS, and GOLD, allow interest on DEPOSITS, and transact a general Banking and Brokerage business.

JOHN MUNROE & CO., BANKERS, NO. 8 WALL ST., NEW-YORK, ISSUE CIRCULAR LETTERS OF CREDIT ON MUNROE & CO., PARIS, AND ON THE CONSOLIDATED BANK, LONDON.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK, (CORNER BOWERY AND BROOME ST.,) NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF THIS institution for the ensuing year and for three inspectors for the next ensuing election will be held at the banking-house on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 1874. Poll will be open from 2 to 3 o'clock P. M. By order GEO. W. YOULE, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE HAMILTON FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 11 WALL ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1873. THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this company, and inspectors of election for the ensuing year, will be held at the office of the company, MONDAY, Jan. 5, 1874. The polls will be open from 12 M. to 2 P. M. D. D. LEEDS, Secretary.

NINTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS OF this bank will be held at the banking-room, No. 407 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 13, 1874, between the hours of 12 M. and 2 P. M. H. H. NAZRO, Cashier.

THE MARKET NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1873. THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, Jan. 13, 1874, from 12 M. to 1 P. M. A. GILBERT, Cashier.

NEW-YORK MUTUAL GAS-LIGHT COMpany stock bought and sold by A. H. NICOLAY & CO., No. 43 Pine st.

CITY OF ROCHESTER 7 Per Cent. WATER LOAN BONDS. CIRCULARS ON APPLICATION. ROBINSON, CHASE & CO. BANKERS, NO. 18 BROAD ST.

TOLEDO, WABASH & WESTERN GOLD 7 PER CENTS. ALSO, Cincinnati, Hamilton & Indianapolis CURRENCY 7 PER CENTS., GUARANTEED, PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, BY THE Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad Company. For sale by WINSLOW, LANIER & CO., NO. 27 PINE ST.

VERMILYE & CO. BANKERS, 16 and 18 Nassau st., New-York. DEALERS IN ALL ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES. FIRST-CLASS RAILROAD AND MUNICIPAL BONDS ALWAYS ON HAND FOR INVESTMENT. BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION RAILWAY STOCKS, BONDS, AND GOLD. INTEREST ON DEPOSITS. WASH'N R. VERMILYE, JAS. A. TROWBRIDGE, DONALD MACKAY, LATHAM A. FISH.

CAPRON & MERRIAM, BANKERS, No. 9 Wall st., New-York. MONEY RECEIVED ON DEPOSIT, subject to sight-check, upon which INTEREST will be allowed, according to the rates of the money market. BANKS,' BANKERS,' MERCHANTS' and other accounts received on deposit as above, or the funds will be loaned on commission, as they prefer. GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, STOCKS, BONDS, and GOLD bought and sold on commission. ADVANCES made on first-class COMMERCIAL PAPER, and other approved securities.

WOOD & DAVIS, BANKERS, No. 31 Pine St., New-York, Receive the accounts of banks and bankers, merchants, and corporations. execute orders for United States and municipal stocks, railroad bonds, and investment securities for estate and trust funds. C. D. WOOD. SAM'L D. DAVIS.

NATIONAL PARK BANK OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1873. THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS will take place at the Banking-house on TUESDAY, 13th day of January, 1874. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M. JAMES L. WORTH, Cashier.

CONTINENTAL FIRE INSURANCE STOCK FOR SALE BY WM. C. GILMAN, No. 46 Pine st.

PROPOSALS FOR BONDS. Holders of bonds of the undermentioned companies bearing the traffic guarantee or obligation to purchase of the Great Western Railway Company of Canada are hereby informed that the sums mentioned below have been appropriated from traffic, to the 31st October, 1873, by the said Great Western Railway Company, for the purchase of such bonds, pursuant to the agreements between said companies respectively and said Great Western Railway Company of Canada and the Michigan Central Railroad Company, and that the said Great Western Railway Company require proposals for sale of such bonds, which proposals will be received by the undersigned at his office, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, up to the 15th January, 1874:

Detroit, Hillsdale and Indiana Railroad Company	$4,211 45
Detroit, Eel River and Illinois Railroad Company	24,255 82

JOSEPH PRICE, General Manager, Great Western Railway Company. 1st December, 1873.

OFFICE OF THE METROPOLITAN GAS-LIGHT COMPANY, BROADWAY, CORNER OF 40TH ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of the Metropolitan Gas-light Company for the election of Directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Company's office, corner of Broadway and 40th st., on MONDAY, Jan. 12, 1874. Polls open from 12 M. to 3 P. M. The transfer-books of the Company will be closed on the evening of Saturday, Dec. 27, 1873, and reopened Tuesday morning, Jan. 13, 1874. O. F. ZOLLIKOFFER, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 51 WALL ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 13, 1873. THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY WILL close on the 31st inst., preparatory to its annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks which shall have terminated during the year prior to the 1st of January next, are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon, and a statement of all claims for return of premiums to prevent discrepancies in the accounts. J. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF CONTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY, WASHINGTON, Sept. 23, 1873. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL persons who may have claims against THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE COMMONWEALTH, in the City of New-York, that they are called upon to present the same and to make legal proof thereof to ISAAC H. BAILEY, Receiver, at the office of said bank, in the City of New-York. JOHN JAY KNOX, Controller of the Currency.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO., NO. 59 WALL ST., ISSUE COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE in all PARTS of the WORLD.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1873. THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank and inspectors of election for the ensuing year, will be held at their banking-house TUESDAY, the 13th day of January, 1874. The polls will be open from 12 M. to 1 P. M. ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1873. THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this bank, for the election of eleven Directors to serve the ensuing year, will be held at the banking-house, TUESDAY, Jan. 13, 1874. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M. By order of the Board. C. V. BANTA, Cashier.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK, NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION, NEW-YORK, Dec. 13, 1873. THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-room on TUESDAY, Jan. 13, 1874. Polls open from 12 to 1 o'clock P. M. W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1873. ELECTION.—AN ELECTION OF DIRECTORS WILL be held at the office of this bank, on TUESDAY, Jan. 13, 1874, from 12 M. to 1 P. M. E. WILLSON, Cashier.

DIVIDENDS.

OFFICE CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND AND PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, No. 13 WILLIAM ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1873. COUPONS DUE JAN. 1, 1874, WILL NOW be received for examination, for which receipts will be given and checks ready for delivery on WEDNESDAY, 31st inst., for all coupons received up to, and including Tuesday, 30th inst. F. H. TOWS, Treasurer.

MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1873. DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., free of tax, payable on the 2d of January next. The transfer-book will be closed until that date. WM. H. COX, Cashier.

THE MARKET NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1873. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared from the earnings of the current six months a Dividend of Five per Cent., payable on and after Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-books will be closed until that date. A. GILBERT, Cashier.

SIOUX CITY AND PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, BOSTON, Dec. 20, 1873. THE COUPONS OF THIS COMPANY, DUE Jan. 1, will be paid by the National Park Bank, New-York. JOHN M. GLIDDEN, Treasurer.

NINTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF FOUR (4) PER CENT., free from tax, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-books will remain closed from the 24th inst. until the 2d prox. H. H. NAZRO, Cashier.

DIVIDENDS.

OFFICE OF THE HOUSTON AND TEXAS CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, NO. 50 WALL ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. The coupons due 1st of January, 1874, on first mortgage gold bonds will be paid at National City Bank. W. M. RICE, Financial Agent.

THE IMPORTERS' AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF SEVEN PER CENT., OUT of the earnings of the last six months, free of all taxes, has this day been declared by this bank, payable on the 2d day of January next. The transfer-books will remain closed from 24th inst. to 3d proximo. E. H. PERKINS, JR., Cashier.

THE NATIONAL PARK BANK OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS THIS day declared a dividend of SIX (6) PER CENT., payable Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-books will remain closed until that date. JAMES L. WORTH, Cashier.

ST. LOUIS AND SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, (CONSOLIDATED,) NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1873. NOTICE. The coupons due Nov. 1 upon the First Mortgage Bonds of this company will be paid on and after the 10th day of January, 1874. The payment of coupons due Jan. 1 upon the First Mortgage Bonds issued by the Evansville, Henderson and Nashville Railroad Company will be postponed until the 1st day of March, 1874. The payment of the coupons upon the First Consolidated Mortgage Bonds of this company, due Feb. 1, 1874, will be postponed until the 1st day of April next. The above payments will be made at the banking-house of George Opdyke & Co., and interest at the rate of seven per cent. will be allowed from maturity of coupons to said dates of payment. Coupons must be left three clear days, for examination and verification. E. F. WINSLOW, President.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17, 1873. DIVIDEND NOTICE. The transfer-books of this Company will be closed on the 31st inst., and reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1874. A Dividend of Five per Cent. has been declared on the Preferred and Common Stock, clear of all taxes, payable in cash, on and after the 26th of January next, to the holders thereof as they stand registered on the books of the Company, at the close of business on the 31st of December. All payable at this office. Blank orders for dividend can be obtained at this office. S. BRADFORD, Treasurer.

TO HOLDERS OF OHIO STATE STOCKS.—Notice is hereby given that the interest due on the 1st day of January, 1874, on the Funded Debt of the State of Ohio will be paid at the AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK OF NEW-YORK from the 1st to the 10th prox., and thereafter at our office in this city. The transfer books will be closed on the 15th inst., and remain closed until the 10th prox. COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 13, 1873. JAMES WILLIAMS, Auditor of State, A. T. WIKOFF, Secretary of State, F. B. POND, Attorney General, Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of State of Ohio.

THE METROPOLITAN NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. DIVIDEND. The Directors of The Metropolitan National Bank have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of FIVE (5) PER CENT., payable on the first Monday of January prox. The transfer-books will remain closed until Jan. 10, 1874. GEO. I. SENEY, Cashier.

ROME, WATERTOWN AND OGDENSBURG RAILROAD, PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, No. 52 WALL ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 17, 1873. THIS COMPANY WILL PAY A SEMI-ANNUAL Dividend of Three and a Half per Cent., on and after the 15th January next, to stockholders of record, on the 27th inst., from which date to day of payment the transfer-books will be closed. Dividends on stock registered in New-York will be paid at the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company for sixty days. MARCELLUS MASSEY, President.

ORIENTAL BANK. CAPITAL, $300,000; SURPLUS, $314,000. H. T. CHAPMAN, JR., Cashier. WASHINGTON A. HALL, President. The usual Semi-annual Dividend of Six per Cent. has this day been declared, payable Jan. 2, 1874. NEW-YORK, Dec. 17, 1873.

OFFICE OF WEST WISCONSIN RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 74 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK CITY, Dec. 24, 1873. THE JANUARY COUPONS OF THE WEST Wisconsin Railway Company will be paid in gold on and after the 1st of January next at this office; for the convenience of holders of coupons in Boston and vicinity, at Messrs. Tower, Giddings & Co., of that city; in Baltimore, at Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, and in Europe at London and County Bank, London, England. F. E. TROWBRIDGE, Treasurer.

TREASURER'S OFFICE, NEW-YORK, NEW-HAVEN AND HARTFORD RAILROAD COMPANY, GRAND CENTRAL DEPOT, CORNER 42D ST. AND 4TH AV., NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT. FROM the earnings of the past six months on the capital stock of the company has been declared, payable to the stockholders on and after Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer books will remain closed to Jan. 14, 1874, inclusive. JOHN T. SHELTON, Treasurer.

BANK OF AMERICA, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. DIVIDEND.—THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS of the Bank of America have this day declared a Dividend of Five (5) per Cent. for the current six months, free from taxes, payable to the stockholders on and after FRIDAY, Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-books will remain closed from this date until the morning of Jan. 7, 1874. ROBERT JAFFRAY, Cashier.

OFFICE OF WELLS, FARGO & COMPANY, No. 84 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF FOUR PER CENT. ON THE capital stock of this company has been declared payable Jan. 5, 1874, at this office. The transfer-books will be closed at 2 P. M., on the 24th inst., and reopened on the 5th proximo. THEO. F. WOOD, Assistant Secretary.

NATIONAL SHOE AND LEATHER BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. FORTIETH DIVIDEND.—THE DIRECTORS OF this bank have this day declared a Dividend of SIX PER CENT., payable, free of tax, on and after Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-book will be closed from the 20th inst. until the 2d proximo. J. M. CRANE, Cashier.

IOWA FALLS AND SIOUX CITY RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, BOSTON, Dec. 19, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF THREE ($3) DOLLARS per share on the capital stock of said company has been declared, payable at this office on the 1st day of January next, to stockholders of record Dec. 20th inst. JOHN M. GLIDDEN, Treasurer.

MANUFACTURERS' AND BUILDERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1873. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five (5) per cent., payable Jan. 10, 1874. Transfer-books will remain closed until that date. C. A. WATERBURY, Cashier.

INTERNATIONAL AND GREAT NORTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY OF TEXAS, No. 52 Wall st. THE COUPONS DUE 1ST JANUARY, 1874, on first mortgage bonds Houston and Great Northern Railroad Company will be paid in gold at National City Bank, No. 52 Wall st. JACOB S. WETMORE, Financial Agent.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW-YORK. DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend of Four per cent., (free from taxes,) has been declared on the capital stock of this bank payable on and after Jan. 5, 1874. H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

PHENIX NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1873. THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Three and One-half per Cent., free from tax, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-books will be closed from this date until Jan. 10. JOHN PARKER, Cashier.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., free from tax, payable on and after 2d of January next. The transfer-books will be closed until 5th of January, 1874. W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1873. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared a Semi-Annual Dividend of Four (4) per Cent., payable on and after Friday, Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-books will be closed from this date to Jan. 2, 1874. C. V. BANTA, Cashier.

NATIONAL BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1873. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared a Dividend of Five (5) per Cent., free of tax, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-books will remain closed until that date. G. G. BRINCKERHOFF, Cashier.

COUPONS DUE JAN. 1, 1874. On BONDS of the CAIRO AND FULTON RAILROAD COMPANY will be paid IN GOLD after that date, at the AGENCY of the COMPANY, No. 120 Broadway. H. G. MARQUAND, Vice President.

THE HANOVER NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared a dividend of FOUR (4) PER CENT., free of tax, payable on the 2d of January next. The transfer-books will be closed until the 3d proximo. GEO. W. PERKINS, Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1873. TWENTIETH DIVIDEND.—THE DIRECTORS have this day declared a Dividend of Four per Cent., free of tax, payable 2d January, 1874. The transfer-books will be closed from 24th instant, P. M., till that date. ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

BANK OF NORTH AMERICA, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF FOUR PER CENT., FREE of tax, has this day been declared, payable Jan. 2, 1874, until which date the transfer books will remain closed. J. A. BEARDSLEY, Cashier.

THE JANUARY COUPONS OF THE REAL estate mortgage bonds, negotiated and guaranteed by the Equitable Trust Company, will be paid on and after the 2d day of January, 1874, at the New-York office of the Company, No. 76 Cedar st. JONATHAN EDWARDS, President.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE, LANSING, Dec. 20, 1873. THE INTEREST DUE JAN. 1, 1874, ON THE bonds issued by the State of Michigan, will be paid at the American Exchange National Bank in the City of New-York. V. P. COLLIER, State Treasurer.

IRVING NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT., FREE of tax, has this day been declared, payable Jan. 2, 1874; until which date the transfer books will remain closed. J. L. JEWETT, JR., Cashier.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT. WILL BE paid on and after Jan. 2, 1874. ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

SECOND NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.—TWENTIETH DIVIDEND.—The Directors of this bank have declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., free from tax, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1874. O. D. ROBERTS, Cashier.

DIVIDENDS.

OFFICE OF THE HAMILTON FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, NO. 11 WALL ST.

CAPITAL	[illegible]
SURPLUS	[illegible]
ASSETS	[illegible]

NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1873. The Board of Directors have this day declared the usual semi-annual dividend of Five per Cent., also an extra dividend of Five per Cent., payable on and after Jan. 2, 1874. The transfer-books will be closed from Dec. 20, 1873, to Jan. 2, 1874, inclusive. By order of the Board of Directors. D. D. LEEDS, Secretary.

THE NEW-YORK CENTRAL AND HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD COMPANY, HARLEM DIVISION, GRAND CENTRAL DEPOT, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1873. A DIVIDEND OF FOUR PER CENT. UPON THE capital stock of the New-York and Harlem Railroad Company will be paid by the New-York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company, lessee, (under the provisions of the contract between the two companies,) at this office on the 2d day of January next. The transfer-books will close at 3 P. M., Dec. 20, 1873, and open at 10 A. M., Jan. 3, 1874. C. VANDERBILT, JR., Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY, No. 31 NASSAU ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1873. INTEREST FOR SIX MONTHS TO 1ST JANUARY next, on the Seven per Cent. Certificates of this Company will be paid at this office on and after [illegible]. The transfer-books for said certificates to be closed after the 15th inst. and until the 5th proximo. L. V. F. RANDOLPH, Assistant Treasurer.

NATIONAL BROADWAY BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1873. FORTY-EIGHTH DIVIDEND. A semi-annual dividend of Three Dollars per share will be paid on and after the 2d of January next. J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 22, 1873. THE SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST ON ROCHESTER Water Loan Bonds, Seven per Centum, due Jan. 1, 1874, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, at the office of the Union Trust Company of New-York. JNO. WILLIAMS, Treasurer, City of Rochester.

EAST RIVER NATIONAL BANK DIVIDEND. —A dividend of Four (4) per Cent., free from taxes, has been declared from the profits of the last six months, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1874. J. B. NEWELL, Cashier.

SAVINGS BANKS.

CHARTERED BY THE UNITED STATES. THE FREEDMAN'S SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY. A NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK. No. 185 Bleecker st., New-York. INTEREST commences first of each month, on all sums of deposit, if desired. SIX PER CENT. compound interest certificates issued. Interest paid by check if desired, to depositors residing out of the City. Especial advantages afforded to Executors, Guardians, Trustees, and others having in charge Trust Funds. The following persons are among the TRUSTEES: Washington, D. C. Hon. FRED. DOUGLASS, R. E. TUTTLE, Assistant Treasurer of United States, R. B. FRENCH, Second Auditor, United States Treasury, J. H. ELA, Third Auditor, United States Treasury, SALMON RICHARDS, Ancient Director of Columbia, Hon. WM. CLAFLIN, Ex-Governor of Massachusetts. BANK HOURS—Daily from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. And on MONDAY and SATURDAY NIGHTS, from 5 to 8 P. M. J. W. ALVORD, President. G. W. STICKNEY, Actuary. A. M. SPERRY, General Inspector. SAM'L L. HARRIS, Cashier. Send for circular. JOHN J. ZUILLE, Cashier.

CITIZENS' SAVINGS BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK. 1874—JANUARY INTEREST. The twenty-seventh semi-annual interest at the rate of SIX Per Cent. per annum on all sums of $5 and upwards, which have been on deposit for ONE or more months next previous to Jan. 1, will be credited and paid on and after Wednesday, Jan. 21. All interest not called for will remain as principal and draw interest accordingly, and will be credited in the depositors' books any time when presented after the 21st of January. The bank is open every day for the reception and payment of money from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on MONDAYS and SATURDAYS from 10 A. M. to 7 P. M. Deposits made on or before Jan. 20, will draw interest from the 1st of January. Bank-books in German, French, and English. Bank, No. 58 Bowery, south-west corner of Canal st. E. A. QUINTARD, President. SEYMOUR A. BUNCE, Secretary.

EAST RIVER SAVINGS INSTITUTION, No. 3 CHAMBERS ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1873. FIFTY-FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND.—Interest at the rate of SEVEN (7) PER CENT. per annum has been declared, and will be paid on and after the 19th day of January next on all sums which have remained on deposit for three or six months previous to the 1st day of January, 1874. Interest not called for will be credited and draw interest as an original deposit. Bank open daily from 10 to 3, and on THURSDAY from 10 to 7. WM. H. SLOCUM, President. CHAS. A. WHITNEY, Secretary.

METROPOLITAN SAVINGS BANK, NOS. 1 AND 3 3D AV. Opposite Cooper Institute. INTEREST at the rate of SIX PER CENT. per annum on all sums entitled thereto will be paid to depositors on and after Jan. 21, or, if not withdrawn, will be added to the account, and will draw interest from Jan. 1. DEPOSITS made now draw interest from Jan. 1. By order of Board of Trustees. ISAAC T. SMITH, President. PHILIP W. ENGS, A. F. OCKERSHAUSEN, Vice Presidents. T. W. LILLIE, Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION, No. 96 WARREN ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1873. DIVIDEND NOTICE. The Trustees have ordered that interest be paid at the rate of six per cent. per annum on all sums entitled thereto on and after Jan. 19, 1874. Interest not called for will be added to the principal, and draw interest from Jan. 1. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M. WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President. VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK, CHATHAM SQUARE AND NEW BOWERY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1873. DIVIDEND NOTICE.—The Trustees have ordered that an interest Dividend, at the rate of SIX per Cent. per annum, be paid to all depositors entitled thereto, on and after MONDAY, Jan. 12, 1874. Interest not drawn will be added to principal. HARRISON HALL, President. J. P. COOPER, Secretary. C. D. BAILEY, Treasurer. N. B.—Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1.

GREENWICH SAVINGS BANK.—JANUARY Interest for 1874.—The Board of Trustees have ordered interest to be paid to depositors on and after MONDAY, the 19th of January, 1874, at the rate of Seven per Cent. per annum on all sums of $500 and under, and all sums over $500 at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, entitled thereto. Interest not called for will be added as principal. Money deposited on or before the 10th of January will draw interest from 1st. Bank open daily from 10 to 3 P. M., and on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 5 to 7 P. M. B. F. WHEELWRIGHT, President. JAMES BRYCE, J. HARSEN RHOADES, Secretaries. C. GILBERT, Treasurer.

THE INSTITUTION FOR THE SAVINGS OF MERCHANTS' CLERKS (No. 20 Union place) has declared a DIVIDEND for the six months ending Jan. 1, 1874, at the rate of six per cent. per annum on sums of $5 to $1,000, and at the rate of five per cent. on larger sums; also an EXTRA DIVIDEND of three per cent. on sums not exceeding $1,000, which have remained undisturbed for three years, two per cent. on similar sums undisturbed for two years, and one per cent. on similar sums undisturbed for one year. Said dividends credited as principal Jan. 1, 1874, and payable Jan. 19, 1874. A. GRACIE KING, President. ANDREW WARNER, Secretary.

Broadway Savings Institution. No. 237 BROADWAY, entrance on Park place. Interest on deposits entitled thereto, for the six months ending Dec. 31, at the rate of SIX PER CENT. PER ANNUM, on all sums of $5 and upwards, will be paid on and after Monday, Jan. 19, 1874. FRANCIS P. SCHOALS, President. WARD B. WORRALL, Sec. PETER GRAHAMS, Actuary.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION, No. 283 BOWERY, NEAR HOUSTON ST. INTEREST NOTICE.—A semi-annual dividend of Six per Cent. per annum, has been declared, and will be credited depositors Jan. 1, 1874, on all sums entitled, for the six months and three months ending Dec. 31, payable on and after Jan. 19. Interest not withdrawn will be entitled to interest as a deposit. Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1. A. T. CONKLIN, President. HENRY C. FISHER, Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION, NO. 96 WARREN-ST., NEW-YORK. SIX PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on all sums. DEPOSITS made now draw interest from Jan. 1. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M. WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President. VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK, 3D AV., CORNER 38TH ST. THE USUAL SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST at the rate of SIX PER CENT. per annum on all sums entitled thereto on the first day of January, 1874, will be paid on and after Jan. 20. All money deposited on or before Jan. 20, will draw interest from Jan. 1. FREDERICK OLMSTEAD, President. CHARLES T. RODGERS, Secretary.

GERMAN UP-TOWN SAVINGS BANK, Nos. 906 and 908 3d av., corner 55th st. MONEY DEPOSITED NOW will draw interest from the 1ST OF JANUARY, at the rate of SIX PER CENT. PER ANNUM, on all sums from $1 to $5,000. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and SATURDAYS also, from 6 to 8 in the evening. CHRISTIAN SCHWARTZ, President. CHAS. SCHAFFNER, Secretary and Treasurer.

NEW-YORK SAVINGS BANK, 8TH AV., CORner 14th st.—Six per Cent. interest, commencing the first of each month; money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1. Surplus, $261,919 14; assets, $3,154,632 45. RICHARD H. BULL, President. C. W. BRINCKERHOFF, Secretary.

PRINTING.

100 BUSINESS CARDS SENT TO ANY ADdress for 25 cents. Address S. P. DAYTON, Crown Point, Essex County, N. Y. Post Office Box No. 145.

MARBLE MANTELS.

STEWART'S SLATE MANTELS, MARBLE AND Wood Mantels. Rich and elegant designs at the lowest prices. 220 and 222 West 23d st., bet. 7th and 8th avs.

SHIPPING.

WHITE STAR LINE,
FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL, CARRYING UNITED STATES MAIL.
NEW AND FULL-POWERED STEAM-SHIPS.
Sailing from New-York on SATURDAYS, from Liverpool on THURSDAYS, calling at Cork Harbor each way.
CELTIC..........SATURDAY, Dec. 27, 11 A. M.
BALTIC..........SATURDAY, Jan. 3, 3 P. M.
OCEANIC..........SATURDAY, Jan. 10, at 10 A. M.
REPUBLIC..........SATURDAY, Jan. 17, at 3 P. M.
From White Star Dock, Pavonia Ferry, Jersey City.
Passenger accommodations (for all classes) unrivaled, combining
SAFETY, SPEED, AND COMFORT.
Saloon, State-rooms, Smoking-room and Bath-rooms in MIDSHIP section, where least motion is felt. Surgeons and stewardesses accompany these steamers.
Rates—Saloon, $80, gold; return tickets, $140, gold; steerage, $30, currency. Those wishing to send for friends from the old country can now obtain steerage prepaid certificates, $32, currency.
Passengers booked to or from all parts of America, to Paris, Hamburg, Norway, Sweden, India, Australia, China, &c.
Drafts from £1 upward.
For inspection of plans and other information apply at the Company's offices, No. 19 Broadway, New-York.

NOTICE.
On and after the 1st January, 1874, the General Agency in the United States of the Oceanic Steam Navigation Company (White Star Line) will be conducted by Mr. R. J. CORTIS, who is fully authorized to act on behalf of said Company.—No. 19 Broadway, New-York, December, 1873, Oceanic Steam Navigation Company.
J. H. SPARKS, Attorney.

CUNARD LINE.
NOTICE.
With the view of diminishing the chances of collision, the steamers of this line will henceforth take a specified course for all seasons of the year.
On the outward passage from Queenstown to New-York or Boston crossing meridian of 50 at 43 latitude, or nothing to the north of 43.
On the homeward passage, crossing the meridian of 50 at 42 latitude, or nothing to the north of 42.
THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM SHIPS, BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR.

FROM NEW-YORK.	FROM BOSTON.
*Java, Wednesday, Dec. 24	Parthia, Saturday, Dec. 27
*Cuba, Wednesday, Dec. 31	Samaria, Saturday, Jan. 3
Calabria, Wed'day, Jan. 7	Hecla, Saturday, Jan. 10
Algeria, Wed'day, Jan. 14	Olympus, Saturday, Jan. 17
*Russia, Wedn'day, Jan. 21	Marathon, Sat'day, Jan. 24

And every following WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY from New-York. Steamers marked thus * do not carry steerage passengers. Cabin, $80, $100, and $130, gold, according to accommodation. Tickets to Paris, $15, gold, additional. Return tickets on favorable terms. Steerage, $30, currency. Steerage tickets from Liverpool and Queenstown and all parts of Europe at lowest rates. Through bills of lading given for Belfast, Glasgow, Havre, Antwerp, and other ports in the Continent, and for Mediterranean ports. For freight and cabin passage apply at the Company's office, No. 4 Bowling green. For steerage passage at No. 111 Broadway, Trinity Building.
CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

INMAN LINE FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
Royal Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows:
CITY OF CHESTER..........Saturday, Dec. 27, 12 M.
CITY OF NEW-YORK..........Saturday, Jan. 3, 2 P. M.
CITY OF ANTWERP..........Saturday, Jan. 10, 11 A. M.
CITY OF BROOKLYN..........Saturday, Jan. 17, 2 P. M.
and each succeeding SATURDAY and THURSDAY, from Pier No. 45 North River.
RATES OF PASSAGE.
CABIN, $70, $80, and $90, gold, according to accommodation. Round trip tickets at low rates.
STEERAGE, to Liverpool, Queenstown, Glasgow, Londonderry, London, Bristol or Cardiff, $30. Prepaid certificates, $32, currency.
Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Hamburg, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Paris, at reduced rates.
Drafts issued at lowest rates.
For Cabin Passage and general business apply at the Company's office, No. 15 Broadway.
For Steerage Passage, at No. 33 Broadway or Pier No. 45 North River. JOHN G. DALE, Agent.
Or to
O'DONNELL & FAULK, No. 402 Chestnut st., Philadelphia.
M. S. CREAGH, No. 102 State st., Boston.
F. C. BROWN, No. 32 South Clark st., corner Lake st., Chicago.
WM. INMAN, Liverpool, and No. 9 Rue Scribe, Paris.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.
THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAM-SHIPS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREST.
The splendid vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier No. 50 North River as follows:
EUROPE..........LEMARIE..Saturday, Dec. 27
ST. LAURENT..........LACHESNEZ..Saturday, Jan. 10
PEREIRE..........DAURE..Saturday, Jan. 24
AMERIQUE..........ROUSSAN..Saturday, Feb. 7
PRICE OF PASSAGE IN GOLD (including wine) TO BREST OR HAVRE.
First cabin..........$125 | Second cabin..........$75
Excursion tickets at reduced rates.
American travelers going to, or returning from, the Continent of Europe, by taking this line, avoid both transit by English railway and the discomforts of crossing the Channel, besides saving time, trouble, and expense. GEORGE MACKENZIE, Agent,
No. 58 Broadway.

STEAMER EUROPE, FOR BREST AND HAVRE, will leave Pier No. 50 North River, foot of Morton st., on Saturday, Dec. 27, at 11 o'clock. Passengers are requested to be on board at 10 o'clock.
GEORGE MACKENZIE, Agent.

NATIONAL LINE.
NOTICE.—This Company takes the risk of insurance (up to $500,000 in gold) on each of its steamers, thus giving passengers the best possible guarantee for safety and avoidance of danger at sea.
The most southerly route has *always* been adopted by this company to avoid ice and headlands.
From Piers Nos. 44 and 47 North River.
TO QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
Italy..Sat., Dec. 27, 11 A. M. | Canada..Sat., Jan. 10, 10 A. M.
Spain..Sat., Jan. 3, 3 P. M. | Egypt..Sat., Jan. 17, 3 P. M.
FORTNIGHTLY TO LONDON DIRECT.
DENMARK, SUMNER.
Cabin passage, $70, $80, $90, currency. Steerage, $29, currency. Return tickets at reduced rates. Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool at the lowest rates. Apply at the company's office, No. 69 Broadway.
F. W. J. HURST, Manager.

ANCHOR LINE.
Steamers sail from Pier No. 20 North River, foot of Dey st., EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.
California....Sat., Dec. 27 | Caledonia....Wed., Jan. 7
Italia....Wed., Dec. 31 | Australia....Sat., Jan. 10
Ethiopia....Sat., Jan. 3 | Olympia....Wed., Jan. 14
CABIN PASSAGE TO OR FROM
Glasgow, Liverpool, or Londonderry,
Wed. steamers, $65 and $75; return, $130, currency.
Sat. steamers, $65 and $75; return, $130, gold.
STEERAGE PASSAGE.
To Glasgow, Liverpool, London, Queenstown, Londonderry, Belfast, Bristol, or Cardiff, $30, currency.
Drafts for any amount at lowest rates.
Company's offices, No. 7 Bowling green, New-York.
HENDERSON BROS., Agents.

FOR LIVERPOOL.
(VIA QUEENSTOWN,)
CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAILS.
THE LIVERPOOL AND GREAT WESTERN STEAM COMPANY will dispatch one of their first-class full-power iron screw steam-ships from
PIER NO. 46 NORTH RIVER, EVERY WEDNESDAY, as follows:
IDAHO, Capt. MOORE..........Dec. 24, 9:30 A. M.
MINNESOTA, Capt. BEDDOE..........Dec. 31, 2 P. M.
WISCONSIN, Capt. FREEMAN..........Jan. 7,
NEVADA, Capt. FORSYTH..........Jan. 14, 2 P. M.
MANHATTAN, Capt. PRICE..........Jan. 21, 8 A. M.
WYOMING, Capt. GUARD..........Jan. 28, 2 P. M.
Cabin passage, $80, gold.
Steerage passage, (Office No. 29 Broadway,) $30, currency.
For freight or cabin passage apply to
WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 63 Wall st.

GREAT WESTERN STEAM-SHIP LINE.
NEW-YORK TO BRISTOL, ENG., DIRECT.
Taking goods and passengers for London, Cardiff, Newport, Gloucester, and all ports in Bristol Channel.
The steamers of this line will sail from Pier No. 18, East River, as follows:
LADY LYCETT, EVATT..........Saturday, Dec. 20
GREAT WESTERN, STAMPER..........Saturday, Dec. 27
ARRAGON, WESTERN..........Wednesday, Jan. 14
CORNWALL, GIBSON, to follow.
Cabin passage, $70 currency; intermediate, $45 currency; steerage, $30 currency. Parties wishing to send for their friends can obtain prepaid certificates. Drafts for £1 and upward. For freight or passage apply to
E. E. MORGAN'S SONS,
No. 70 South st., New-York.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.
THE UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.
Regular mail steamers SAILING 23D OF EVERY MONTH, making close connections at RIO DE JANEIRO with the English and French Mail Steam-ships for MONTEVIDEO and BUENOS AYRES.
The splendid steam-ship ONTARIO, Capt. GEORGE B. SLOCUM, will sail from PIER NO. 43 NORTH RIVER, on TUESDAY, Dec. 23, at 3 P. M., calling at ST. THOMAS, PARA, PERNAMBUCO, BAHIA, and RIO DE JANEIRO, going and returning.
First cabin passage to St. Thomas, $100; to Para, $150; to Pernambuco, $200; to Bahia, $210, and to Rio de Janeiro, $225, gold. Steerage half price. EXCURSION TICKETS, good for six months, at three quarters of above rates.
Freights greatly reduced.
Apply to WM. R. GARRISON,
No. 5 Bowling green.

FOR HAVANA.
NASSAU, PROGRESO, AND VERA CRUZ.
New-York and Mexican Mail Steam-ship Line, Leaving Pier No. 3 North River, at 3 P. M.
CITY OF HAVANA, (Havana direct)..........Dec. 31
CITY OF NEW-YORK, (Havana direct)..........Jan. 8
CLEOPATRA, (Havana and Mexico)..........Jan. 10
CITY OF MERIDA, (Havana via Nassau)..........Jan. 15
CUBA, (Havana direct)..........Jan. 17
For freight or passage apply to
F. ALEXANDRE & SONS, No. 33 Broadway.

FOR NASSAU, N. P.,
STEAM-SHIP CITY OF MERIDA
Will leave Pier No. 3 North River, Jan. 15, at 3 P. M.
F. ALEXANDRE & SONS, No. 33 Broadway.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY'S LINE.—THURSDAY, Jan. 8, steam-ship COLON, Capt. H. P. CONNER, leaves Pier No. 42 North River, at 12 o'clock M., for Aspinwall, connecting with steamer at Panama for Acapulco, Manzanillo, Mazatlan, San Diego and San Francisco, and also with steamers for Central America and South Pacific ports.
Steamers for Japan and China leave San Francisco on 1st and 16th of each month.
For passage or freight apply at the company's office, Pier No. 42 North River, New-York.
R. J. BULLAY, Superintendent.

NOTICE TO TRAVELERS.
Families or gentlemen going to travel on the Continent of Europe, who can afford the expense of a courier, should never leave Paris without one. Their services are invaluable in relieving the traveler from multiplicity of cares and troubles respecting passports, examination and conveyance of luggage, in securing the best accommodation, in protecting the traveler from imposition, and an infinity of annoyances to which they are exposed in various parts of the continent. Competent and trustworthy couriers and traveling servants may always be obtained by applying to the COURIER SOCIETY, No. 3 Rue d'Alger, near the Tuileries Garden, Paris.

UNITED STATES PASSPORT BUREAU.—United States passports, indispensable to travelers, issued by J. B. NONES Passport Agent, No. 91 Duane-st., corner Broadway.

SHIPPING.

CARDIFF LINE.
NEW-YORK TO CARDIFF.
The South Wales Atlantic Steam-ship Company's New, First-Class, Full-Powered Clyde-Built Steam-ships
Will sail from Pennsylvania Railroad Wharf, Jersey City:
DELTA (chartered,)..........Dec. 13
PEMBROKE..........Jan. 10
GLAMORGAN to follow.
Carrying goods and passengers at through rates from all parts of the United States and Canada to ports in the Bristol Channel, and all other points in England.
These steam-ships, built expressly for the trade, are provided with all the latest improvements for the comfort and convenience of
CABIN AND STEERAGE PASSENGERS.
First Cabin..........$75 and $80 currency.
Second Cabin..........$55 currency.
Steerage..........$30 currency.
Prepaid steerage certificates from Cardiff..........$33
Drafts for £1 and upward.
For further particulars apply in Cardiff at the Company's Offices, No. 1 Dock Chambers, and in New-York to ARCHIBALD BAXTER & CO., Agents,
No. 17 Broadway.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.
THE FLORIDA PORTS,
AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.
GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE.
CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA, AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, AND SATURDAYS.
THE STEAM-SHIPS
HUNTSVILLE, Capt. CROWELL, SATURDAY, Dec. 27, from Pier No. 13 North River, at 3 P. M.
R. LOWDEN, Agent,
No. 93 West st.
SAN JACINTO, Capt. HAZARD, SATURDAY, Dec. 27, from Pier No. 43 North River, at 3 P. M.
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 5 Bowling green.
VIRGO, Capt. BULKLEY, TUESDAY, Dec. 30, from Pier No. 16 East River, at 3 P. M.
MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents,
No. 62 South st.
GENERAL BARNES, Capt. CHEESEMAN, THURSDAY, Jan. 1, from Pier No. 43 North River, at 12 M.
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 5 Bowling green.
Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT.
Superior accommodations for passengers.
Through rates and bills of lading, in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.
Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Freight Line.
GEORGE YONGE,
Agent Great Southern Freight Line,
No. 409 Broadway.

GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT
AND
PASSENGER LINE,
FOR CHARLESTON, S. C.,
THE FLORIDA PORTS,
AND THE
SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.
SAILING TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY, from Pier No. 29 North River.
SOUTH CAROLINA, Capt. J. T. BECKETT, Thursday, Dec. 25, at 12 M.
CHARLESTON, Capt. JAMES BERRY, Saturday, Dec. 27.
JAMES ADGER, Capt. T. I. LOCKWOOD, Tuesday, Dec. 30.
Superior accommodations for passengers.
Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT.
Goods forwarded free of commission.
Passage tickets and bills of lading issued and signed at the office of
JAMES W. QUINTARD & CO., Agents,
No. 177 West st., (corner of Warren,)
Or W. P. CLYDE & CO.,
No. 6 Bowling green.
Through freight tariffs. Passage tickets by all routes and to all points in the South and South-west, and further information can be obtained at the office of
BENTLEY D. HASELL,
General Agent Great Southern Freight Line,
No. 317 Broadway.

ATLAS MAIL LINE.
BI-MONTHLY SERVICE TO HAYTI, VENEZUELA, CURACOA, MARACAIBO, JAMAICA, AND COLOMBIA. First-class full-powered English-built iron screw steamers, from Pier No. 12 North River.
For HAYTI, CURACOA, VENEZUELA, and PORTO RICO.
CORINTH..........Jan. 9.
CLARIBEL..........Jan. 30.
For JAMAICA AND COLOMBIA.
ATLAS..........Dec. 27.
ETNA..........Jan. 13.
First-class passenger accommodation.
PIM, FORWOOD & CO., Agents,
Nos. 56 Wall and 59 Pine sts.

NEW-YORK AND HAVANA DIRECT MAIL LINE.
These first-class steam-ships will sail every TUESDAY, at 3 P. M., from Pier No. 13 North River, (foot of Cedar st.,) for Havana direct, as follows:
Steam-ship WILMINGTON, HOLMES, Dec. 30.
Steam-ship MORRO CASTLE, MORTON, Jan. 6.
Steam-ship CRESCENT CITY, CURTIS, Jan. 13.
For freight or passage (having magnificent accommodations) apply to WM. P. CLYDE & CO.,
No. 6 Bowling-green.
D. McKELLAR, Agent in Havana.
March 31, 1873.

SAMANA BAY COMPANY.
For Puerta Plata, Samana, and San Domingo City, the United States Mail steam-ship Tybee, Capt. Delanoy, will leave Pier No. 3 North River, with dispatch. Bills of Exchange on Puerta Plata, Samana, and San Domingo City, in sums to suit purchasers, for sale. For freight or passage apply to SPOFFORD BROTHERS & CO., No. 29 Broadway.

RAILROADS.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.
Trains leave New-York, from foot of Desbrosses and Cortlandt sts., as follows:
Express for Harrisburg, Pittsburg, the West, and South, with Pullman palace cars attached, 9:30 A. M., 5 and 8:30 P. M. Sunday, 5 and 8:30 P. M.
For Baltimore, Washington, and the South, via "Pennsylvania Air-Line," at 8:40 A. M., 3 and 9 P. M. Sunday, 9 P. M.
Express for Philadelphia, 8:40, 9:30 A. M., 12:30, 3, 4, 5, 8:30, 9 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday, 5, 6:10, 8:30, and 9 P. M.
For Trenton at 7:20 A. M., 2, 3:10, and 6:10 P. M. Sunday, 6:10 P. M.
Emigrant and second class, 7 P. M.
For Newark at 6, 6:30, 7:20, 7:40, 8:00, 9, 10, 11 A. M., 12 M., 1, 2, 2:30, 3:10, 3:40, 4:10, 4:30, 5, 5:20, 5:40, 6, 6:10, 6:30, 8:10, 10, 11:30 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday, 5:20, 6:10, 7:30, and 8:10 P. M.
For Elizabeth, 6, 6:30, 7:20, 7:40, 8:00, 9, 10, 11 A. M., 12 M., 1, 2, 2:30, 3:10, 3:40, 4:10, 4:30, 5:20, 5:40, 6, 6:10, 6:30, 8:10, 10, 11:30 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday, 5:20, 6:10, 7:30, and 8:10 P. M.
For Rahway, 6, 6:30, 7:20, 8:00, 10 A. M., 12 M., 1, 2, 2:30, 3:10, 3:40, 4:10, 4:30, 5:20, 5:40, 6, 6:10, 6:30, 8:10, 10 P. M., and 12 night. Sunday, 5:20 and 6:10 P. M.
For Woodbridge and Perth Amboy, 6 and 10 A. M., 2:30, 4:10, and 6 P. M.
For New-Brunswick, 7:20 and 8:00 A. M., 12 M., 2, 3:10, 4:30, 5:20, 6:10, and 12 night. Sunday, 6:10 P. M.
For East Millstone, 8:00 A. M., 12 noon, and 4:30 P. M.
For Lambertville and Flemington, 9:30 A. M. and 3 P. M.
For Phillipsburg and Belvidere, 3 and 4 P. M.
Accommodation, for Bordentown, Burlington, and Camden, 7:20 and 9:30 A. M., 12:30, 2, 3:10, 4, and 6:10 P. M.
For Freehold, 7:20 A. M., 2 and 4 P. M.
For Jamesburg, Pemberton, Camden, 6 A. M. and 2:30 P. M.
Trains arrive as follows:—From Pittsburg, 6:50 A. M., 12:35 and 7:35 P. M., daily; 11:55 A. M. daily, except Monday. From Washington and Baltimore, 6:05 and 6:40 A. M., 5:15 and 10:27 P. M. Sunday, 6:05, 6:40 A. M., and 10:27 P. M. From Philadelphia, 5:22, 6:05, 6:50, 10:15, 11:55 A. M., 2:15, 5:15, 6:05, 8:44, 10:27 P. M. Sunday 5:22, 6:05, 6:40, 6:50, 11:55, A. M. and 10:27 P. M.
Ticket-offices, Nos. 526, 435, 271, and 944 Broadway, No. 1 Astor House, and foot of Desbrosses and Cortlandt sts. Emigrant ticket-office, No. 8 Battery place.
A. J. CASSATT, General Manager. D. M. BOYD, JR., General Passenger Agent.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF NEW-JERSEY.
ALLENTOWN LINE TO THE WEST.
Passenger and Freight Station in New-York, foot of Liberty st. Connects at Somerville, with South Branch Railroad; at Hampton Junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad; at Phillipsburg with Lehigh and Susquehanna Division; also with Lehigh Valley Railroad. Direct line to Harrisburg, Pittsburg, and the West; also to Central Pennsylvania and New-York State.
WINTER ARRANGEMENT.
Commencing Dec. 1, 1873.—Leave New-York as follows:
5:15 A. M.—News Train for Easton, Bethlehem, Bath, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Wilkesbarre, Scranton, &c.
6 A. M.—Way Train for Plainfield.
7 A. M.—Way Train for Flemington, Easton, Belvidere, Mauch Chunk, Wilkesbarre, Pittston, Mahaney City, Mount Carmel, Hazleton, Tunkhannock, Towanda, Waverly, &c. Connects at Junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.
9 A. M.—Morning Express, daily, (except Sundays,) for Easton, Allentown, Harrisburg, and the West. Connects at Somerville for Flemington, at Easton for Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Wilkesbarre, Scranton, &c., with through cars to Danville, Williamsport, &c.
10:30 A. M.—Way Train for Somerville.
12:40 P. M.—Express for Flemington, Easton, Bath, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Mahanoy City, Hazleton, Wilkesbarre, Scranton, Reading, Columbia, Lancaster, Ephrata, Pottsville, Harrisburg, &c.
2:30 P. M.—Way train for Easton, Allentown, and Belvidere.
3:30 P. M.—Way train for Plainfield.
4 P. M.—Way train for Easton, Allentown, and Mauch Chunk. Connects at Junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.
4:30 P. M.—Way train for Somerville and Flemington.
5 P. M.—Way train for Somerville.
5:15 P. M.—Way train for Plainfield.
5:30 P. M.—Evening Express, daily, for Easton, Belvidere, Allentown, Reading, Harrisburg, Pittsburg, Chicago, &c.
6 P. M.—Way train for Somerville.
6:40 P. M.—For Plainfield.
7:30 P. M.—(Emigrant)—For Easton.
9:15 P. M.—Way train for Somerville.
11:45 P. M.—For Plainfield.
For Elizabeth at 5:15, 6, 6:20, 6:40, 7, 7:30, 8, 8:45, 9, 9:30, 10:30, 11:15 A. M.; 12 M.; 12:40, 1, 2, 2:30, 3, 3:30, 3:45, 4, 4:15, 4:30, 4:45, 5, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6, 6:20, 6:40, 7:15, 7:30, 8:15, 9:15, 10:30, 11:45 P. M.
R. E. RICKER, Superintendent and Engineer.
H. P. BALDWIN, General Passenger Agent.

NEW-YORK CENTRAL AND HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.—After Nov. 2, 1873, through trains will leave Grand Central Depot:
8:00 A. M., Chicago and Northern Express, with drawing-room cars through to Rochester and St. Albans.
10:30 A. M., special Chicago Express, with drawing-room cars to Rochester, Buffalo, &c.
10:45 A. M., Northern and Western Express.
3:40 P. M., Albany and Troy Express, Saturday only.
4:00 P. M., Montreal Express, with sleeping cars from New-York to St. Albans.
6:00 P. M., Express, daily, with sleeping cars for Watertown and Canandaigua.
8:00 P. M., Pacific Express, daily, with sleeping cars for Rochester, Buffalo, and Niagara Falls; also for Chicago, via both L. S. and M. C. Railroads.
11:00 P. M., Express, with sleeping cars for Troy and Albany. Way trains as per Local Time Table.
C. H. KENDRICK, General Passenger Agent.

RAILROADS.

NEW-YORK, NEW-HAVEN, AND HARTFORD RAILROAD.
NEW-YORK AND NEW-HAVEN DIVISION.
WINTER ARRANGEMENT,
COMMENCING NOV. 17, 1873.
Passenger Station in New-York, Grand Central Depot. Entrance on 42d st.
TRAINS LEAVE NEW-YORK.
Trains for New-Haven leave at 7:05, (accommodation,) 8:05, (express,) 9:05, (accommodation,) 10 A. M., (express,) 12 N., (accommodation,) 1, (express,) 3, (express,) 3:55, (accommodation,) 4:38, and 5:10, (local express,) 8:10, (express,) and 9:10, (express,) P. M.
For South Norwalk 7:05, 8:05, 9:05 A. M., 12 M., 1, (express,) 3, 3:55, 4:38, 5:10, 6:35, 8:10, 9:10 P. M. For Stamford 7:10, 8:05, 9:05, 10:10 A. M., 12 M., 1, 2:23 and 3, (express,) 3:55, 4:38, 4,45, 5:10, 5:40, 6:35, 7:20, 8:10, 9:10 P. M.
For Port Chester 11:40 P. M.
Boston Express, via Springfield, at 8:05 and 10 A. M., 3 and 8:10 P. M., via Shore Line, at 1 and 9:10 P. M. The 8:05 A. M., 1, 3, and 8:10, and 9:10 P. M., stopping at Stamford, Norwalk, and Bridgeport. The 8:05 A. M. and 1 P. M. connects with trains on Shore Line Division for Norwich and Providence, and the Connecticut Valley at Saybrook. The 8:05 A. M. and 3 P. M. connect with New-Haven and Northampton Railroad at New-Haven; 8:05, 10 A. M., and 12 noon trains connect with Connecticut River Railroad at Springfield, and 3 P. M. for Montreal. The 8:05 A. M., 1, and 3 P. M. connects with Naugatuck Railroad, and the 8:05 A. M., 3 P. M. with Housatonic Railroad at Bridgeport. The 8:05 and 9:05 A. M., and 3 and 4:38 P. M. with Danbury and Norwalk at South Norwalk, and the 8:05 A. M., 1, and 5:10 P. M. with New-Canaan Railroad at Stamford.
Sunday Boston mail trains at 7 P. M., via Springfield at 9:10 P. M., via Providence.
Drawing-room cars on day express and sleeping cars on night express trains.
Tickets can be purchased at ticket office of company at Grand Central Depot, or at offices of New-York Transfer Company, No. 944 Broadway, and Windsor House, New-York, and No. 1 Court st., Brooklyn, who will also check baggage from residence to destination.
For further information of particulars see posters at hotels and depot. JOHN T. MOODY,
Superintendent of New-York Division.
E. M. REED, General Superintendent, New-Haven.

SOUTH-SIDE RAILROAD.
NOTICE.
On and after Dec. 1, 1873, trains will leave South 8th st., Brooklyn, as follows, Sundays excepted:
For Patchogue, and intermediate stations, at 9:30 A. M. and 4 P. M.
For Islip, and intermediate stations, at 9:30 A. M., and 4 and 5 P. M.
For Babylon, and intermediate stations, at 9:30 A. M., and 1:30, 4, 5, and 6 P. M.
For Merrick, and intermediate stations, at 9:30 A. M., and 1:30, 5, 6, and 7 P. M.
For Hempstead, Rockaway, and intermediate stations, at 9:30 A. M., and 4, 5, and 6 P. M.
Sunday trains leave Bushwick for Islip at 9 A. M.
GEO. F. CARMAN, Superintendent.

STEAMBOATS.

HARTFORD BOATS—DAILY LINE.—LEAVE Pier No. 24 Peck-slip, East River, daily, (except Sundays,) at 4 o'clock P. M. All persons are forbid trusting any one on account of these steamers.
W. H. GOODSPEED, Vice President.
SAXTON & SEABURY, Freight Agents, No. 112 South st.
JUNE 1, 1873.

FOR BRIDGEPORT AND ALL POINTS ON Housatonic and Naugatuck Railroad.—Fare, $1. Steamers leave Catharine-slip at 12 noon.

NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD, AND THE NORTH.—Steamers leave Peck-slip for New-Haven at 3:15 and 11 P. M., (except Sundays,) connecting with road.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR WRAPPING PAPER AND TWINE.
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8, 1873.
SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this Department until the 8th day of January, 1874, at 12 o'clock noon, for furnishing Wrapping Paper and Twine for the use of the Post Offices in the United States for one year from the 1st day of February, 1874, the said articles to be delivered free of expense to the Department at the Blank Agency of the Post Office Department, Washington, D. C.
The quality and the estimated quantity of each article required are specified below:
12,000 reams of Wrapping Paper, 20x25 inches in size, and to weigh twenty-two pounds to the ream, each ream to contain twenty perfect quires.
150 reams of Wrapping Paper, 26x40 inches in size, and to weigh fifty-five pounds to the ream, each ream to contain twenty perfect quires.
130,000 pounds of Cotton Twine, to be eight-ply, and to measure from 750 to 775 yards to the pound, of sufficient strength to sustain a weight of seventeen pounds, and to be put up in balls weighing about a half pound each, and so bound as not to become loose or tangled in transportation.
45,000 pounds of coarse Hemp Twine, to be three-ply, and to measure from forty to forty-five yards to the pound, and to be put up in balls weighing from one to two pounds each, and so bound as not to become loose or tangled in transportation.
Samples of the articles required will be furnished to persons who desire to bid, on application to the First Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C.
More or less than the estimated quantities may be ordered as the necessities of the Department may require, at the discretion of the Postmaster General.
Awards will be made for each article separately if deemed most advantageous to the Department.
Bids not made in conformity with this advertisement will not be considered.
Each bidder must furnish with his proposal guarantees of his ability to comply with his bid, and a certificate from a postmaster that such guarantors are reliable persons.
A bond with two sufficient sureties will be required to each contract.
A failure to furnish promptly any article contracted for, or an attempt to impose upon the Department articles inferior, in the opinion of the Postmaster General, to those contracted for, will be considered sufficient cause for the forfeiture of the contract.
The Postmaster General reserves the right to reject any or all bids, if in his opinion it is required by the interests of the Department.
Proposals must be indorsed on the envelope, "Proposals for Wrapping Paper," or "Proposals for Twine," and addressed to the First Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C.
JOHN A. J. CRESWELL, Postmaster General.

PROPOSALS FOR LETTER BALANCES.
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8, 1873.
SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this Department until the 8th day of January, 1874, at 12 o'clock noon, for furnishing Letter Balances for the use of the Post Offices in the United States for one year from and after the 1st day of February, 1874, of the following description, namely:
First. Balances capable of weighing eight ounces, avoirdupois weight, to be graduated down to quarter ounces. Of these it is supposed that 1,000 will be wanted.
Second. Balances of the same capacity, graduated by the metric or gramme system. Of this class 100 may be required.
Third. Balances capable of weighing four pounds, avoirdupois weight, to be graduated to half ounces. Of this class it is supposed that 200 will be wanted.
Perfect accuracy, strength, and durability will be required in the Balances to be furnished.
Samples of each description of Balances must accompany each bid, and the bidder who may obtain the contract will be required to furnish Balances of a quality in all respects equal to the sample.
Each Balance must be well and securely packed in a box for transportation, and delivered free of all expense to the blank agency, Washington, D. C.
More or less than the estimated quantities may be ordered, as the necessities of the Department may require, at the discretion of the Postmaster General.
Awards will be made for each article separately if deemed most advantageous to the Department.
Bids not made in conformity with this advertisement will not be considered.
Each bidder must furnish with his proposal guarantees of his ability to comply with his bid, and a certificate from a postmaster that such guarantors are reliable persons.
A bond, with two sufficient sureties, will be required to each contract.
A failure to furnish promptly any article contracted for, or any attempt to impose upon the Department articles inferior in the opinion of the Postmaster General to those contracted for, will be considered sufficient cause for the forfeiture of the contract.
Proposals must be indorsed on the envelope, "Proposals for Letter Balances," and directed to the First Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C.
JOHN A. J. CRESWELL, Postmaster General.

PROPOSALS FOR STEAM PILE-DRIVERS.
Sealed proposals for furnishing three (3) steam pile-drivers will be received at the office of the Department of Docks until 2 o'clock noon of Monday, Dec. 29, 1873.
For full information see the *City Record*. Copies for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

PROPOSALS FOR COAL.
Sealed proposals will be received by the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction, until 2 o'clock P. M., of MONDAY, Jan. 5, 1874, for furnishing two thousand (2,000) tons of best quality of white-ash coal.
For full information see the *City Record*. Copies for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

AUCTION SALES.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.—IN Bankruptcy.—The undersigned will sell at public auction, at the Grand Union Hotel, 4th av., 41st and 42d sts. and Park av.,
on TUESDAY, Jan. 20, 1874,
commencing at 10 A. M.,
and continuing daily, at the same hour, all the new and elegant furniture and fixtures in said hotel, for cash.
Catalogues may be had from me, at the St. James Hotel, corner Broadway and 26th st., on and after Jan. 2, 1874. J. F. FROST,
Trustee for creditors of E. Hotchkiss.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 26, 1873.

JOHN H. DRAPER & CO., Auctioneers.
THE DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY will sell
7,000 TONS SCRANTON COAL,
at PUBLIC AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 31, at 12 o'clock noon, at No. 26 Exchange place.
SAMUEL SLOAN, President.

EDWARD M. BROWN, Auctioneer.
BY BROWN & SECCOMB.—FRIDAY, DEC. 26, at 12 o'clock, within their store, fresh Valencia and Malaga Oranges and Lemons, ex steam-ship Assyria, and can be seen on Pier No. 21, North River. Also, Valencia Oranges, ex steam-ship Minnesota.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

$1 50.—THE NURSERY.
A Monthly Magazine for Youngest Readers. **Superbly Illustrated.** Send stamp for a sample number. *Now is the time to subscribe.* JOHN L. SHOREY, No. 36 Bromfield st., Boston.

THE MODEL LETTER, THE ART OF CORRESPONDENCE, as taught by a Professor of English literature, mailed on receipt of twenty-five cents. Address WILLIAM COX, No. 363 Madison st., Brooklyn, N. Y.

DRY GOODS.

EMBROIDERED SLIPPERS
A SUITABLE PRESENT FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
CANTRELL, Nos. 259 and 261 4th av.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

ADVERTISEMENTS ARE RECEIVED FOR THE NEW-YORK TIMES
At the Times Up-Town Office,
No. 54½ West 32d st., junction Broadway and 6th av.,
And the Times West-Side Office,
No. 308 West 23d st., corner of 8th av.
NO EXTRA CHARGE WHATEVER.

HORSE BLANKETS AND CARRIAGE ROBES, SLEIGH BELLS.—A LARGE ASSORTMENT IN ALL GRADES WILL BE FOUND AT
HARMER, HAYS & CO.'S, No. 72 Beekman st.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

ADVERTISEMENTS ARE RECEIVED FOR THE NEW-YORK TIMES
At the Times Up-Town Office,
No. 54½ West 32d st., junction Broadway and 6th av.,
And the Times West-Side Office,
No. 308 West 23d st., corner of 8th av.
NO EXTRA CHARGE WHATEVER.

NO. 36 EAST 21ST ST.
Private parlor and bed-room, connecting; handsomely furnished, with liberal table and comforts of a refined home; also, bright, sunny square room. References.

ELEGANT SECOND FLOOR, EN SUITE or separately; private table or board; also, family and hall rooms, third floor. No. 33 West 33d st., near 5th av.

ELEGANTLY-FURNISHED PARLOR AND bedroom, also single room, to let to gentlemen, without board, in a private family; location unexceptionable. No. 37 East 19th st., between 4th av. and Broadway.

A HANDSOME FRONT PARLOR, 13X33, with bay window and Plympton bedstead; also, rooms on second floor above, to let, separately or together, with or without board. No. 147 West 45th st.

NO. 48 EAST 21ST ST.
Two back rooms on second floor, and one front four-story room, with board.

CRITTENDEN HOUSE, BROADWAY AND 26TH st., on the American or European plan; fine suits and single rooms at reduced prices.

FURNISHED ROOMS TO RENT ON SECOND floor, to gentlemen only. Family strictly private. No. 159 West 15th st. Reference required.

AT NO. 35 EAST 21ST ST.,
Pleasant rooms to let with board.

COUNTRY BOARD.

AT STAMFORD, CONN.—THREE OR FOUR persons can be accommodated with board; pleasant home and good table. Apply to E. S. CRANK & CO., No. 1,205 Broadway, corner of 29th st.

BOARD WANTED.

WANTED—BY A SINGLE GENTLEMAN, WITH best references; sitting-room and bedroom in private family without board. Address LODGER, Box No. 146 *Times* Office.

INSTRUCTION.

MOUNT WASHINGTON COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE,
NO. 40 WASHINGTON SQUARE.
Dr. GEO. W. CLARKE, Principal, prepares pupils of all ages for business or college.

ANTHON GRAMMAR SCHOOL,
NO. 252 MADISON AV., (38th st.)
School hours, 9:30 A. M. to 2:30 P. M.
Departments—Primary, Junior, and Senior English, Junior and Senior Classical, Modern Languages, and Drawing.
Twentieth annual circular sent on application.

CHARLIER INSTITUTE FOR BOYS AND YOUNG GENTLEMEN, NOS. 126 AND 128 EAST 24TH ST. BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL.
PROF. ELIE CHARLIER.

GROVE HALL, NEW-HAVEN, CONN.
SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES.
Established 1820.
Winter recess ends Jan. 6.
For circulars address
E. A. KINGSLEY, M. A., Principal.

YONKERS MILITARY INSTITUTE.
A BOARDING SCHOOL
for making boys intelligent, healthy, Christian MEN.
ESTABLISHED 1854.
Earnest teaching. Common-sense management.
BENJAMIN MASON, Box No. 654 Yonkers, N. Y.

JACKSON MILITARY INSTITUTE,
Tarrytown, N. Y. Established 1857.
Address Rev. F. J. JACKSON, M. A., Principal.

COLLEGIATE AND COMMERCIAL INSTITUTE, New-Haven, Conn.—Preparatory to College, Business, Scientific Schools, United States Military and Naval Academies. Winter session, thirty-sixth year, begins Jan. 8. WM. H. RUSSELL, Principal.

IRVING INSTITUTE, TARRYTOWN, ON HUDSON.—Superior advantages for boys; studies resumed Sept. 17. Circulars of
ARMAGNAC & ROWE, Principals.

HUDSON YOUNG LADIES' SEMINARY, Hudson, N. Y.—A native French teacher resides in the family. Terms, $300 per annum.
Misses PEAKE, Principals.

HOME INSTITUTE FOR YOUNG LADIES, TARRYTOWN, N. Y., combining home care with a thorough course of study in the English branches, the languages, and music. Miss M. W. METCALF, Principal.

FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH RAPIDLY and practically taught, in classes or privately. No. 56 South 5th av., first floor.

GOLDEN HILL SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES, Bridgeport, Conn. Address Miss EMILY NELSON.

$250 PER YEAR.—HEMPSTEAD INSTITUTE, Long Island. E. HINDS, A. M.

WEST-SIDE BUSINESS COLLEGE, 23D ST., corner 6th av. Day and evening. Please call.

TEACHERS.

WANTED.—A RESIDENT TEACHER IN FIRST-class school for boys, near New-York; English and classics. References. Address L. B., *Times* Up-town Office, No. 54½ West 32d st.

PRIVATE TEACHER, TEN YEARS' EXPERIENCE, desires pupils. Address CONSTANT, No. 101 East 25th st.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHLORYDYNE.—THE MOST WONDERFUL REMEDY ever discovered. Caution and advice to invalids. Beware of spurious imitations of Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORYDYNE, the original and only genuine; the best, safest, and most effectual remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhea, Colic, Cramp, Neuralgia.
Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORYDYNE is publicly acknowledged by the most eminent physicians of London to be the most effectual remedy ever discovered. To prevent fraud, the Government have authorized a stamp with the words Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorydyne, without which none can be genuine. Sold in bottles at 65 cents, $1 40, and $2 15, by all chemists. Sole manufacturer, J. T. Davenport, London. Agents in New-York, W. H. SCHIEFFELIN & CO. and J. C. WELLS.

500 NAMES SENT FREE FOR 50 CENTS. Address S. F. DAYTON, Crown Point, Essex County, N. Y. Post Office Box No. 145.

BANKRUPT NOTICES.

DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of SAMSON STARK and LEOPOLD STARK, bankrupts.—In Bankruptcy. A warrant in bankruptcy has been issued by said court against the estate of Samson Stark and Leopold Stark, of the County of New-York, of the State of New-York, in said district, adjudged bankrupts upon the petition of their creditors, and the payment of any debts and the delivery of any property belonging to said bankrupts, to them or to their use, and the transfer of any property by them, are forbidden by law. A meeting of the creditors of said bankrupts of prove their debts and choose one or more assignees to their estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, to be holden at No. 345 Broadway, in the City of New-York, in said district, on the 6th day of January, A. D. 1874, at 1 o'clock P. M., at the office of John Fitch, Esq., one of the Registers in Bankruptcy of said Court. OLIVER FISKE,
Marshal—Messenger.

DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of ISAAC TEBRICH, bankrupt.—In Bankruptcy.—A warrant in bankruptcy has been issued by said court against the estate of Isaac Tebrich, of the County of New-York, of the State of New-York, in said district, adjudged a bankrupt upon the petition of his creditors, and the payment of any debts and the delivery of any property belonging to said bankrupt, to him, or to his use, and the transfer of any property by him, are forbidden by law. A meeting of the creditors of said bankrupt, to prove their debts and choose one or more assignees of his estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, to be holden at No. 322 Broadway, in the City of New-York, Room No. 6, in said district, on the 15th day of January, A. D. 1874, at 12 o'clock, M., at the office of Isaac Dayton, Esq., one of the Registers in Bankruptcy of said court.
OLIVER FISKE, Marshal, Messenger.

IN BANKRUPTCY.—IN THE DISTRICT COURT of the United States for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of WILLIAM W. HULST, Bankrupt.—Notice is hereby given that a petition has been filed in said court by William W. Hulst, of the City of New-York in said district, duly declared a bankrupt under the act of Congress of March 2, 1867, for a discharge and certificate thereof from all his debts, and other claims provable under said act, and that the 5th day of January, 1874, at 11 o'clock A. M., at the office of Isaiah T. Williams, Register in Bankruptcy, No. 4. William W. Hulst, in the City of New-York, is assigned for the hearing of the same, when and where all creditors who have proved their debts, and other persons in interest may attend, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.—Dated New-York, on the 18th day of December, 1873.
d19-1aw3wF* GEO. F. BETTS, Clerk.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED States.—District of New-Jersey.—In the matter of GUSTAVUS A. WIEDENMAYER and GEORGE W. WIEDENMAYER, bankrupts.—In Bankruptcy.—To whom it may concern: You are hereby notified that a second general meeting of the creditors of the above-named bankrupts will be held at Newark, in said district, on the 5th day of January A. D. 1874, at 2 o'clock P. M., at the office of Staats S. Morris, Esq., one of the Registers in Bankruptcy in said district, (No. 663 Broad street,) for the purposes mentioned in the twenty-seventh section of the Bankrupt act of March 2, 1867. E. N. MILLER, Assignee.

NO. 4,332.—IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE United States for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of JOSEPH S. WOOLF, bankrupt.—In Bankruptcy.—To whom it may concern: The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as assignee of Joseph S. Woolf, of the City of New-York, in the County of New-York and State of New-York, within said district, who has been adjudged a bankrupt upon his own petition by the District Court of said district.—Dated at New-York the 26th day of November, A. D. 1873. HENRY C. DENISON, Assignee,
d12-1aw3wF* No. 284 Broadway, New-York City.

AMUSEMENTS.

CARD.
THE UNION SQUARE THEATRE TO THE PUBLIC.
The New-York *Herald*, after grossly maligning this Theatre and its Company during the present performances of "Led Astray" in its dramatic columns, has refused to insert our advertisements because they were not of equal length with those given by us to other newspapers. The undersigned feel bound, in the name of decency and fair dealing, to resist this attempt to coerce them into paying a large weekly tribute to a newspaper which persistently and maliciously abuses their establishment; and they respectfully notify the public that hereafter the UNION SQUARE THEATRE advertisements will not appear in the New York *Herald*.
SHERIDAN SHOOK,
A. M. PALMER.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE. BEGINS AT 7:45.
SPECIE PRICES—Admission, 50 cents; reserved seats, 50 cents and $1 extra; family circle, 40 cents.
EVERY NIGHT AND TO-MORROW (SATURDAY) MATINEE,
G. L. and C. K. FOX'S
Freshest, Brightest, Best, Comic Trick Spectacular Pantomime,
HUMPTY DUMPTY ABROAD,
which abounds with features calculated to delight both adult and child, and is, from prologue to transformation scene, one continuous exhibition of the comical, marvelous, and fanciful!
THE MARTEN FAMILY!
THE RIGL SISTERS!
HERR CARL LIND!
THE JACKLEY TROUPE!
and the specialty artists of renown are contributers to the GRAND HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT!!!
Let the children see HUMPTY DUMPTY and OLD ONE, TWO, BUCKLE-MY-SHOE, on their travels in foreign parts, and join their gleeful shouts to the uproarious mirth with which the beautiful and capacious Grand Opera-house resounds at every performance of HUMPTY DUMPTY ABROAD!

P. T. BARNUM'S HOLIDAY SENSATIONS.
AT THE RINK AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

DOUBLE DOUBLE	Extra attractions in the great Museum, Menagerie, and Circus, AFTERNOON and EVENING. The thrilling BATTLE SCENE at night, costing $20,000, is the most gorgeous Equestrian drama ever produced. Five Hundred Men and Horses in deadly strife, representing the leading historic event of the Revolution. Regular Arenic Exhibitions daily at 2 and 8. Every department thronged from 12 M. to 10 P. M. Admission 50 cents; children under 9, 25 cents; reserved chairs, 25 cents extra.	CIRCUS CIRCUS

WOOD'S MUSEUM. E. L. DAVENPORT.
CONTINUED GIGANTIC SUCCESS.
EVENING at 8. The eminent tragedian, E. L. DAVENPORT, in the nautical drama, BLACK-EYED SUSAN, and A BULL IN A CHINA SHOP.
AFTERNOON at 2, The specialty artists DELEHANTY & HENGLER, Herr WILLIS, SAIDEE, O'NEIL, and others, in the Oriental spectacle, CHERRY AND FAIR STAR, cast to entire Company.

BLIND TOM CONCERTS.
STEINWAY HALL.
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 24,
FRIDAY, Dec. 26,
at 8 P. M.
MATINEE CHRISTMAS DAY,
at 1:30 P. M.
ADMISSION, 50 CENTS;
RESERVED SEATS, 25 CENTS EXTRA;
CHILDREN UNDER NINE, HALF PRICE.
TICKETS AT THE HALL AND
NO. 114 BROADWAY.

ASSOCIATION HALL. Y. M. C. A.
MEMBERS' COURSE.
FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 26,
GRACE GREENWOOD
will lecture on
YANKEE WIT AND CHARACTER.
Admission, 50 cents; reserved seats, 25 cents extra. Full membership ticket admits member and one lady free.

GILMORE'S
SATURDAY EVENING CONCERT, AT ARMORY, EVERY SATURDAY.

LECTURES.

COOPER UNION.—FREE LECTURES FOR THE People in the Great Hall at 8 P. M., SATURDAY, the 27th inst.; the lecture will be delivered by Prof. EDWARD S. MORSE, of Bowdoin College, Maine, on "Radiates," being the first of a series of four on "Natural History."
Tickets can be had gratis at the office of the Cooper Union, and at the book stores of A. Brentano, Union square, and D. Van Nostrand, No. 23 Murray st.
ABRAM S. HEWITT, Secretary.

MUSICAL.

200 PIANOS AND ORGANS,
New and Second-hand, *of First-class Makers, will be sold at* **Lower Prices** *for cash, or on* **Installments,** *or for rent, in* **City or Country, during this Financial Crisis** *and the* **HOLIDAYS,** *by* **HORACE WATERS & SON, No. 481 Broadway, than ever before offered in New-York. Agents wanted** *for the sale of* **Waters' Celebrated Pianos, Concerto and Orchestral Organs. Illustrated Catalogues Mailed. Great Inducements to the Trade. A large discount to Ministers, Churches, Sunday-Schools,** Etc.

PELOUBET, PELTON & CO.'S STANDARD ORGANS.
29,000 now in use.
Warerooms **841 BROADWAY,** N. Y.
Unequaled in Tone and Design.
A splendid stock now on hand.

CHICKERING, STEINWAY, AND 75 OTHER fine UPRIGHT, SQUARE, and GRAND PIANOS and ORGANS very low for cash on installments and for rent. Also, organs and pianos, with keys and mechanical attachment, appropriate for exhibitions and places of amusement. S. X. BALL & CO., No. 15 East 14th st.

A LARGE STOCK OF PIANOS,
SQUARE AND UPRIGHT, to rent or sell cheap; rent allowed on purchases. Call at M. M. MERRELL'S, No. 8 Union square, (No. 165 4th av.)

BURDETT ORGANS.—THE NE PLUS ULTRA of reed instruments. Unsurpassed in tone. Elegant new cases. When you buy, be sure and get the best. BILLINGS & WHEELOCK, General Agents, No. 14 East 14th st. Cabinet Organs of other manufacture at panic prices, $40 and upward.

LIGHTE & ERNST, SOLE SUCCESSORS TO Lighte, Newton & Bradbury, would respectfully invite attention to their splendid stock of Piano-fortes, which they offer for sale throughout the holidays at greatly reduced prices for cash and on easy monthly payments, at their new warerooms, No. 12 East 14th st.

$50 TO $150 SAVED BY BUYING RELIABLE, warranted Pianos, new and second hand, cheaper than anywhere else, at FISCHER'S, No. 425 West 28th st., near 9th av.

STEINWAY, CHICKERING, AND OTHER NEW and second-hand Pianos and Organs for rent, and sold on installments very low during the holidays. Beautiful carved Piano, cheap. BERRY & CO., 789 Broadway.

BEAUTIFUL 7 1-4 OCTAVE ROSEWOOD piano, agraffe treble, every improvement, fully warranted, $180; one do., perfect order $100. Installments taken. R. CABLE, No. 107 West 23d st.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

A LAW PARTNER WANTED BY A GENTLEMAN who has been out of active practice for some years past, but who has a large and influential acquaintance. The person answering this must be a sound lawyer; best references given and required. Address B. L. G., Box No. 110 *Times* Office.

A GENTLEMAN OF RESPONSIBILITY AND business experience desires the general supervision, such as building, repairing, renting, collecting, insuring, &c., of one or more estates. Address TRUSTEE, No. 62 Broadway, Room No. 35.

FOR SALE.—A FISH, OYSTER, POULTRY, AND vegetable stand, No. 877 6th av. L. THOMPSON.

FURNITURE.

T. G. Sellew.
DESKS,
OFFICE AND LIBRARY FURNITURE,
No. 103 Fulton st.,
BOOK-CASES, AND FANCY DESKS.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

THE FIRM OF ALEXANDER FERGUSON & CO. is this day dissolved by mutual consent. ALEXANDER FERGUSON is alone authorized to sign in liquidation.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1873. ALEXANDER FERGUSON,
THOMAS FERGUSON,
JOHN BROWN,
ALEXANDER FORDYCE.

DANCING.

A. DODWORTH'S
PRIVATE CLASSES FOR DANCING,
No. 212 5th av., corner 26th st.,
are now open for the season.
Send for circular.

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY. NILSSON TO-NIGHT.
GRAND NILSSON FAREWELL.
LAST NIGHT (PRIOR TO DEPARTURE) OF THE STRAKOSCH GRAND OPERA COMPANY.
THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING, DEC. 26, AT 8 O'CLOCK,
LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR.
Mme. CHRISTINE NILSSON AS LUCIA.
M. VICTOR CAPOUL AS EDGARDO.
(His first appearance in that rôle in New-York.)
Signor DEL PUENTE AS ASHTON.
Signor SCOLARA AS RAYMOND.
GRAND CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA.
Musical Director and Conductor..........Signor E. MUZIO
TO-MORROW, (SATURDAY,) DEC. 27, AIDA MATINEE.
Seats may now be secured at the Academy of Music; also at Nos. 701 and 114 Broadway.

ACADEMY—GRAND AIDA MATINEE.
GRAND FAREWELL MATINEE OF THE STRAKOSCH ITALIAN OPERA COMPANY,
TO-MORROW,
SATURDAY, Dec. 27, at 1:30 P. M.,
AIDA. AIDA.
TORRIANI, CARY, CAMPANINI, MAUREL, NANNETTI, SCOLARA, &c., &c.
INCREASED CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA.
Musical Director and Conductor..........Signor MUZIO
Matinée Prices—General Admission, $2; reserved seats, (all parts,) $1 extra. Seats at Academy; also No. 701 and No. 114 Broadway.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE.
Proprietor..........Mr. SHERIDAN SHOOK
Manager..........Mr. A. M. PALMER
Begins at 8. Over promptly at 11.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS of the new play LED ASTRAY. Written and arranged expressly for this theatre by Dion Boucicault.	A decided and electric success.—"*Play-goer,*" *in the Herald.* The most entertaining, and will, doubtless, prove the most popular comedy presented to us since Mr. Robertson ceased writing.—*Evening Post.* Of all the plays produced in New-York for years, not one equals in interest and morality that upon the boards of the Union Square Theatre.—*Evening Mail.*
THE THEATRE crowded to the doors every night. Seats may now be secured TWO WEEKS in advance.	Seldom, indeed, have we seen a French comedy whose tone is so pure, whose philosophy is so acceptable, whose sentiment is so wholesome, and whose dramatic interest is so well sustained.—*The World.* An excellent acting piece, performed with spirit and smoothness, and illustrated by a stage attire elegant and tasteful.—*The Times.*

Characters by Miss Rose Eytinge, Miss Emily Mestayer, Mrs. Marie Wilkins, Miss Kate Claxton, Miss Weathersby, Miss Kate Holland, and Messrs. Charles R. Thorne, Jr., McKee Rankin, Stuart Robson, H. W. Montgomery, Claude Burroughs, Wilder, and Quigley.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
Begins at 8. Carriages may be ordered for 10:30.
Box office open continuously from 8 A. M. till 10 P. M., and seats may be secured ten days in advance.
Prices, $1 50, $1, 75c., 50c. Boxes, $15, $12, $10.
Proprietor and Manager..........Mr. AUGUSTIN DALY

PARRICIDE!!!! THE GREAT PARISIAN SENSATION.	BELOT'S great PARISIAN SENSATION An Instantaneous Hit!!! The audience alternately thrilled with emotion and convulsed with genuine LAUGHTER!!! The most GORGEOUS SCENERY in the City!!! All the GREAT ARTISTS in the cast!! Including Mr. Charles Fisher, Mr. Geo. Clarke, Mr. W. Davidge, Mr. Frank Hardenberg, Mr. Louis James, Mr. Owen Fawcett, Miss Fanny Morant, Miss Sara Jewett, Mrs. G. H. Gilbert, Miss Minnie Conway, Miss Nellie Mortimer, and others. A RARE TROUPE of Gymnasts in the GREAT CIRCUS SCENE.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
NEW-YEAR'S DAY,
at 1:30 o'clock,
SPECIAL MATINEE OF PARRICIDE.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.
Opens 7:1-5; Curtain rises 8 o'clock.
Brilliant Triumph of the Wonderful
MAJILTON-RAYNOR FAMILY
Unequivocal hit of the
Great Christmas Imagination,
GABRIEL GRUB;
OR, THE GOBLINS THAT STOLE THE SEXTON.
Such a galaxy of Stars, such supernatural feats, such marvelous and incredible scenic and mechanical effects combined with musical and Terpsichorean novelty, have never before been witnessed on the American stage. Everything to please the eye, excite the imagination, tickle the fancy and delight the senses, in a manner at once grotesque, startling and unparalleled. Every Night, Wednesday, Christmas Day and Saturday Matinées.
Box sheet open; secure seats in time. Look at the Holiday Prices: Admission, 50 cts Family Circle, 30 cts. Reserved seats in Orchestra or Balcony, $1.

THEO. THOMAS' SYMPHONY CONCERTS,
AT STEINWAY HALL,
SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 27, at 8.
SECOND SYMPHONY CONCERT.
Overture to Schiller's "Bride of Messina"....Schumann
Concerto for Two Violins..........Spohr
Messrs. R. ARNOLD, S. E. JACOBSOHN and orchestra.
Symphony No. 5, "Leonore," (new,)..........Raff
Theme and variations, } "Septett"..........Beethoven
Scherzo..........}
Finale..........}
Overture, "Le Carneval Romain"..........Berlioz
Season tickets for the remaining FIVE CONCERTS, including reserved seat, $7, can now be had at the Box Office of Steinway Hall. The sale of single tickets will commence on THIS MORNING, at Nos. 701 and 114 Broadway, and at the Box Office of Steinway Hall.
ADMISSION TICKETS, $1 and $1 50.
RESERVED SEATS, 50 cents extra.
SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JAN. 3, 1874, AT 2,
THEODORE THOMAS'
GRAND POPULAR MATINEE.

MERCANTILE LIBRARY LECTURES,
ASSOCIATION HALL,
MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 29,
P. B. DU CHAILLU.
Subject—"Land of the Midnight Sun."
Tickets at the Library, and No. 114 Broadway.

GEO. H. WALLACE & SON.—FOURTH SATurday Evening Hop.—Ferrero's Assembly Rooms, (Tammany building, 14th st.,) commencing at 8 and closing at 12 P. M.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

ADVERTISEMENTS ARE RECEIVED FOR THE NEW-YORK TIMES
At the Times Up-Town Office,
No. 54½ West 32d st., junction Broadway and 6th av.,
And the Times West-Side Office,
No. 308 West 23d st., corner of 8th av.
NO EXTRA CHARGE WHATEVER.

FEMALE HELP,
All nationalities, for every capacity, at
ODELL'S,
No. 109 West 34th st., corner Broadway.
(ESTABLISHED 1852.)

A NUMBER OF EXCELLENT COOKS, laundresses, and other good general servants, some German, &c., for city or country, at moderate wages, and well recommended. Can be seen at the Protestant Institute, No. 138 6th av., above 10th st., over the drug store.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A NEAT, COMPETENT, American Protestant girl in hotel, boarding-house, or private family; good references; can sew, and make herself very useful. To be seen at No. 69 6th av.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A RESPECTABLE YOUNG girl as chamber-maid and waitress in a private family or private boarding-house; will assist in washing and ironing, and make herself generally useful; best City reference. Call at No. 212 West 27th st.

COOK.—BY A THOROUGH EXPERIENCED COOK, with best of references from first of families in England and New-York; is competent to do all kinds of cooking; wages moderate. Can be seen at the Protestant Institute, No. 138 6th av., above 10th st., over the drug store.

HOUSE-WORK.—BY A CAPABLE, TIDY NORwegian girl as general servant, or house-maid; will make herself useful in the family where she lives; is not afraid of work; City or country. Call at No. 106 6th av., over blue store.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A STRONG, HEALTHY, Scotch woman, who can do a large washing, or cook a good dinner, to cook, wash, and iron, or would do general work; no objection to leave the City. Call at No. 106 6th av., over blue store.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A RESPECTABLE WOMAN TO go out by the day washing and ironing; best City reference. Call at No. 426 West 41st st., between 9th and 10th avs., first floor.

MALES.

THE FREE EMPLOYMENT OFFICE OF the Bowery branch Young Men's Christian Association, No. 134 Bowery, furnishes employers promptly with all kinds of male labor free of charge; men forwarded to the country on receipt of fare. Call or address by letter (with stamp inclosed) W. B. CHURCHILL.
Rev. JOHN DOOLY,
General Secretary of the Bowery Branch.

COACHMAN, GARDENER, &c.—BY A MAN anxious for a situation at moderate wages; is a good coachman and groom; also understands gardening, milking, taking care of cattle, poultry, &c. Best recommendations. Call at Carpenter's, No. 138 West 11th st. corner 6th av.

GARDENER.—BY A YOUNG MAN WHO UNDERstands the care of flowers, hot and cold graperies, a first-class vegetable grower, and thoroughly experienced in landscape gardening; can produce the best of reference. Address No. 151 East 32d st., for two days.

GROOM, &c.—BY A PROTESTANT SINGLE MAN as groom and coachman and generally useful man; can milk; very good City reference. Address C. M., Box No. 241 *Times* Office.

MALE HELP,
All nationalities, for every capacity, at
ODELL'S,
No. 109 West 34th st., corner Broadway.
(ESTABLISHED 1852.)

SERVANT.—BY A YOUNG MAN, WHO IS WELL accustomed to wait on table, clean silver, tend door, clean furniture, carpets and mirrors, wash windows and sidewalks, clean shoes, milk, care cattle and horses, drive, &c.; good recommendations. Call at Carpenter's, No. 138 West 11th st., corner 6th av.

USEFUL MAN, HOUSE-WORK, &c.—BY A Scotch Protestant man and wife; no children; man can take care of and drive horses, feed and care cattle, repair harness, do chores about a place, &c.; wife a good cook and laundress; will do general house-work, good recommendations; wages moderate. Call at Carpenter's, No. 138 West 11th st., corner 6th av.

USEFUL MAN, FARMER, &c.—BY A REspectable man, aged twenty-two years, lately landed; can do farm-work as done in Ireland; also, milk, care cattle and horses, drive, &c.; good references; wages moderate. Call at Carpenter's, No. 138 West 11th st., corner 6th av.

HELP WANTED.

AGENT WANTED TO SELL CLOTHES-DAMPener; something new and important to housekeepers; a neat and useful article for dampening clothes; price, 25 cents each.
UNDERDONK & CO., No. 405 Grand st.

WANTED.—A BODY SERVANT—A YOUNG OR NOT over middle-aged man; unmarried; competent to fill the duties of a body-servant, at home or abroad; may be wanted as nurse. Enquire at No. 26 Bond st.

AMUSEMENTS.

BOOTH'S THEATRE. LESSEE, J. B. BOOTH.
POPULAR PRICES:
Balcony, $1; dress circle, 50 cents; gallery, 25 cents.
SECOND WEEK of Mr. F. S. CHANFRAU as KIT, OR THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER!
EVERY NIGHT and SATURDAY MATINEE.
Everything New, New Scenes, New Effects.
Read what the New-York *Herald* says of Kit: "It is not often that a critic can accord unqualified praise to a performance, but the manner in which this truly American drama is presented leaves no room for unfavorable criticism."
GRAND KIT MATINEE, ON X-MAS DAY.
In active preparation a new play by the celebrated dramatist, Adolphe Belot, author of "Article 47," and other successful plays, entitled
LA FEMME DE FEU,
in which Mrs. J. B. BOOTH will soon appear.
Seats secured in advance at the theatre, and at the music store of C. H. Ditson & Co., No. 711 Broadway.

WALLACK'S
Proprietor and Manager..........Mr. LESTER WALLACK
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30; COMMENCES AT 8.
EIGHTH WEEK of Mr. LESTER WALLACK,
In the comedy series
EVERY EVENING UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
Also, SATURDAY AFTERNOON at 1:30,
Will be repeated, Mr. Dion Boucicault's new legitimate comedy, in five acts, imitated from a French subject, entitled
A MAN OF HONOR.
With entire new and beautiful scenery, costumes and appointments.
Characters by Mr. LESTER WALLACK, JOHN GILBERT, HARRY BECKET, J. B. POLK, E. M. HOLLAND, G. F. BROWNE, J. W. LEONARD, Miss JEFFREYS LEWIS, Miss LAURA ALEXANDER, Mme. PONISI, and Miss BLAISDELL.
MATINEE, SATURDAY, AT 1:30 P. M.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NO. 728 BROADWAY.
GRAND CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.

LAST	WILKIE COLLINS' WOMAN IN WHITE, WOMAN IN WHITE.
TWO	WYBERT REEVE, as Count Fosco.
NIGHTS.	THE SUCCESS OF THE SEASON. A THOROUGH ARTISTIC TRIUMPH.

SATURDAY MATINEE AT 1:30.
PRICES—Orchestra seats, $1; balcony and dress circle, 50 cents; family circle, 25 cents.

NIBLO'S GARDEN. VOKES.
VOKES | THE BEAUTIFUL FAIRY SPECTACLE,
VOKES | CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.
VOKES | THE GREAT HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT.
SPECIAL MATINEE NEW-YEAR'S DAY.
SATURDAY MATINEE AT 1:30.

DAN BRYANT'S MINSTRELS 23D ST.
Every evening at 8. Saturday matinée at 2. Crowded with fashionable and delighted audiences. Two hours' fun. All new acts. Dan Bryant, Unsworth, Eugene, Hart, Reed, Seymour.

MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING AND CHRISTMAS MATINEE.
THE WICKED WORLD.
Mrs. F. B. CONWAY, Mr. FRANK ROCHE,
Miss IDA SAVORY, Mr. WALTER LENNOX.

SEVENTH REGIMENT CHARITY BALL,
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TUESDAY EVENING, JAN. 6, 1874.
The boxes will be sold by auction, at the armory of the regiment, on SATURDAY EVENING, Jan. 3, 1874, at 8 o'clock.

MRS. JARLEY'S WAX-WORKS
AND TABLEAUX.
LYRIC HALL, 42D ST. AND 6TH AV.,
DEC. 26, AT 8 P. M.
Admission, $1.

GILMORE'S
SATURDAY EVENING CONCERT, AT ARMORY,
EVERY SATURDAY.

CAROLINE RICHINGS-BERNARD'S
OLDE FOLKES' COSTUME CONCERT.
STEINWAY HALL, 29TH.
NEXT MONDAY EVENING.
Twenty-six select artists in songs of various countries, and in rich and elegant costumes appropriate to the music.
BOX-SHEET NOW OPEN AT THE HALL.

ROBINSON HALL,
16th st., near Broadway. Prof. Harts will give his wonderful magic entertainment EVERY EVENING this week, including the astounding Indian Box and Spiritual Basket, (copyright,) with matinées on THURSDAY and SATURDAY, at 2; doors open at 1:30. Tickets 50 cents only. Commence (evening) at 8 o'clock.

OPEN DAY AND EVENING, THE PHRENOlogical Rooms, No. 389 Broadway.—Examinations, with charts and full written descriptions of character.
Good books for presents.

SURROGATE NOTICES.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against SIMON LABAYEN Y ARANZABE, late of the City of Matanzas, Cuba, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscriber, at the office of Coudert Brothers, Attorneys, &c., No. 49 Wall street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 22d day of June next.—Dated New-York, the 18th day of December, 1873.
MARIA DE LA CONCEPCION ARANZABE,
Administratrix with the will annexed.
d19-1aw6mF*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against WILLIAM P. VAN RENSSELAER, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at the office of Man & Parsons, No. 56 Wall-street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 10th day of February next.—Dated New-York, the 31st day of July, 1873.
ALBON P. MAN,
JOHN ERVING, } Executors.
au1-1aw6m WILLIAM J. HOPPIN,

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against JOHN PRIESTLEY, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at her place of transacting business, the office of William Bruorton, No. 169 Broadway, in the City of New-York, on or before the 1st day of June, next.—Dated, New-York, the 13th day of November, 1873. DEBORAH PRIESTLEY,
n14-1aw6mF* Executrix, &c.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against ELIZABETH M. M. WHITE, late of the City, County, and State of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscribers, at their place of transacting business, at the office of Foster & Thomson, No. 69 Wall street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 13th day of June next.—Dated New-York, the 9th day of December, 1873.
LAURA CORDELIA KNAPP POMEROY,
CAROLINE PIERCE,
d12-1aw6mF Executrices.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against LOUIS BONARD, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at his office, No. 100 East Twenty-second-street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 1st day of February next.—Dated, New-York, the 11th day of June, 1873. HENRY BERGH, Executor.
au1-1aw6mF*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against GUSTAVE RACLE, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at her place of business, No. 92 Fulton street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 16th day of April next.—Dated New-York, the 16th day of October, 1873.
o17-1aw6mF* ELISE RACLE Executrix.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against JOHN C. RENNERT, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at her residence, No. 114 East 92d street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 30th day of April next.—Dated New-York, the 22d day of October, 1873.
o24-1aw6mF* CATHARINE E. RENNERT, Executrix.

LEGAL NOTICES.

SUPREME COURT.—CITY AND COUNTY OF New-York.—JOHN L. ROGERS, plaintiff, against ROBERT CENTER, individually; Robert Center, as Executor and Trustee of and under the last will and testament of Henry Center, late of the City of New-York, deceased; Margaret M. Center; Edward C. Center; Henry L. Center; Virginia W. Justh; Robert Center, Henry J. Schenck and Charles Crary, as Trustees of Virginia W. Justh; Emil Justh; Edward C. Justh; Nina Justh; Edith Justh; Elisabeth Mary Center; Martha Center; The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, as Trustee under the last will and testament of Edward C. Center, late of West Farms, deceased; and Robert Center, as Administrator with the will annexed of the goods, chattels, and credits of said Edward C. Center, deceased, defendants. To the defendants above named, and each of them: You are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint in this action, of which a copy is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscriber, at his office, No. 58 Wall street, in the City of New-York, within twenty days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the said complaint within the time aforesaid, the plaintiff in this action will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the complaint.—Dated Oct. 1, 1873. EDGAR LOGAN,
Plaintiff's Attorney, No. 58 Wall street, New-York.
The complaint in the above entitled action was duly filed in the office of the Clerk of the City and County of New-York, on the 8th day of October, 1873.
n21-1aw6wF EDGAR LOGAN, Plaintiff's Attorney.

NEW-YORK SUPREME COURT—KINGS County.—HARVEY B. STREETER and GRISWOLD DENISON, plaintiffs, against ROBERT SHANNON, Thomas Whittaker, William Metcalf and Ann Hughes, defendants.—Summons for relief.—(Com. not served.)—To the defendants above named and each of them: You are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint in this action, which will be filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, at his office, Brooklyn, Kings County, aforesaid, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscriber, at his office, No. 120 Broadway, in the City of New-York, within twenty days after the service of this summons on you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the said complaint within the time aforesaid, the plaintiffs in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.—Dated New-York, Dec. 22, 1873.
JAS. K. AVERILL, Plaintiff's Attorney,
d12-1aw6wF* No. 120 Broadway, New-York.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

HOW THE FESTIVAL WAS OBSERVED.

INTERESTING RELIGIOUS SERVICES—THE POOR ENTERTAINED—THE DAY AT THE INSTITUTIONS.

Christmas was celebrated yesterday much after the customary fashion, except that in the matter of out-door enjoyments, the pleasures of the masses were greatly restricted by reason of the exceptionally dull and unpleasant weather. Instead of the keen, crisp, and bracing air which people expect at Christmas, the skies were gloomy and leaden, and the atmosphere damp and unpleasant. The parks and other places of public resort were covered with half-thawed snow, and wore a chill and uninviting aspect. There were, in consequence, but comparatively few outings—people who had abandoned themselves to the enjoyments of the time seeking them rather round cosy firesides, and after the traditional domestic fashion proper to Christmas. The auspicious morn was, of course, ushered in by the joyous chimes of church-bells, and the services in all the churches were solemn and imposing. In some cases there were early celebrations, but the principal services in almost all instances commenced at 10:30 o'clock. They were carried out with ample ceremony, and a notable feature in connection with most of them was the excellence of the musical and choral arrangements. This was particularly noticeable at Trinity Church, Grace Church, St. Paul's, and a few others of the Protestant Episcopal churches. In the Roman Catholic chapels the ceremonies were in keeping with the customary gorgeous display which the ritual of that Church sanctions. Of course the several charitable institutions of the City were active in the distribution of the good fare of the season to those who come within their care. In all cases abundant Christmas cheer was distributed among their inmates, and where children came within their charge, suitable Christmas toys and gifts were added. The several institutions are referred to more in detail below, and suffice it to say here that the Children's Aid Society, the Five Points House of Industry, the Howard Mission, and the Ladies' Mission, Five Points, were prominent among the number. At the last mentioned no less than 800 children were provided for. Even those little Arabs of society, the newsboys, were furnished with abundant Christmas cheer, and were in other respects well cared for by Mr. Chas. O'Connor, the Superintendent of the institution in Park place. Brooklyn and Jersey City emulated the example of New-York and gave liberally of the good things belonging to the season.

TRINITY CHURCH.

The principal service at Trinity Church commenced at 10:30. There was an immense congregation, and hundreds of persons who came after the appointed time were unable to obtain admission. A full choral service, comprising selections from Mozart and Beethoven, was rendered, aided by the instrumental accompaniment of a band of thirty pieces. Mr. A. H. Messiter presided at the organ. Rev. Dr. Dix, the Rector, preached the sermon. Dwelling upon the sublimity of the Feast of the Nativity, he said that a glorious dogma of the Christian Church was professed, announced, and exulted in by us all this day. Christ blessed the world by dwelling among us. He was the light of men—the light shining in darkness, the true light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. It was not the taking of one man into the closest relation with the Deity, but the assuming by God of that nature which was common to us all. Christ was made man—but a man-God could no more be changed into a man, than a man could be changed into God. He was made man—he assumed human nature. Our humanity was made immortal and glorious in Christ, and there was not a square foot on the globe inhabited by intelligent people in which this Christian feast could not be kept as it was in the temple in which they were then assembled. Christ was born for all. He died for all, and it seemed to-day as if the whole world was one. It was one so far as that great work was concerned which was filling our hearts with gladness. Jesus Christ was the Redeemer of all mankind. There was no human being who could not look to God as his father: nor was there one who might not seek his Savior and Redeemer in the incarnate God, and therefore this day was one of wide and general gladness. Rightly understood it was a compensation for the alienation caused by the wars and dissensions of the rest of the year. Since Christ was the Redeemer of all—since God has taken the nature of us all, therefore we were all brethren, having one faith, one Lord, one Church, one hope, one fraternal love. It was this which gave the Christmas song its peculiar brightness and brilliancy. It was hard to say which was the greater—the feast of Easter or the feast of Christmas. The songs were not the same. That of Easter was the chant of victory after battle—the song of Christmas was one of unalloyed rejoicing. Christmas was full of merriment, and we approached it as children innocent of sin and ignorant of sorrow. Christmas was emphatically and pre-eminently the children's time, and during its continuance we ought to forget age and sin.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

The services at St. Paul's Church were of more than ordinary interest, and attracted a large congregation of worshipers, who like to see the services of the Episcopal Church carried out in what they call "the good, old-fashioned way." The decorations were simple but appropriate, and the interior of the sacred edifice presented a brilliant appearance. The windows were adorned with fir trees, and the chancel was garlanded with holly wreaths. The altar and the baptismal font were also decorated with evergreens. The services of the day commenced with an early celebration at 7:30 A. M. At 10:30 the children of the schools sung the Christmas carols, and at 11 o'clock the regular morning service commenced. The children's service was one of peculiar interest. At 10:30 A. M., precisely, the children of the schools of the parish, to the number of over 200, headed by Rev. Dr. Haight, Rector, and Rev. Algernon S. Crapsey, marched in procession up the centre aisle, singing the processional "Litany of the Holy Childhood." On gaining the church the clergymen took their places within the rails, and the children stood around, facing the altar. A number of Christmas carols were then sung by the children. The youthful singers were accompanied on the small chancel organ, but so joyously did their fresh, clear voices ring out in praise of the Babe of Bethlehem, that the notes of the instrument were completely drowned. At 11 o'clock the principal service commenced, the officiating clergymen being Rev. Dr. Haight, Rev. A. S. Crapsey, and Rev. Mr. Hall. The processional, "Shout the Glad Tidings," was sung by the choir and congregation. The music was of the character peculiar to this church, and which contrasts so favorably with many of the worthless modern compositions adopted in some of the fashionable churches. The Te Deum, Nicene Creed, Kyrie, and Gloria in Excelsis were sung from the festival service in E, composed for the congregation of St. Paul's by the organist, Mr. J. H. Cornell, and in use for the last five years. The anthem sung was the composition of Sir John Goss, of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, "Behold I Bring You Good Tidings," which was admirably rendered. The sermon for the day was preached by Rev. Dr. Haight, who took his text from the fourteenth verse of the eleventh chapter of St. Luke—"On earth peace." The preacher alluded to the peace which reigned on earth at the time of the Savior's birth, but reminded his hearers that without peace with God all else was disquietude and misery. In order to celebrate the day as Christians peace should reign in the family circle, in the Church, and in the community; and in the rejoicings of the rich the wants of the poor ought not to be forgotten. The services closed with the celebration of the Holy Communion.

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH.

At St. Thomas' Protestant Episcopal Church, on Fifth avenue and Fifty-third street, the day was specially observed as the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of that church. A description of the decorations, which were both tasteful and elaborate, was published in yesterday's TIMES. There were two services—a sunrise service at 7:30 and a full service at 11 A. M. At the latter the Rector, Rev. Dr. Morgan, delivered a sermon from the second chapter of St. Luke, "And she laid him in a manger." It is from the lowly surroundings of the birth of Jesus that the festival of Christmas assumes its cheerful aspect. Charity comes forth with a smile, and hospitality opens its arms on that day. It is not only a festival—it marks the great change between God and man. In virtue of his human and divine nature, Jesus is the one mediator between God and man. He alluded to the birthday of Jesus as coincident to the birthday of St. Thomas' Church. Just fifty years ago, when this City was only awakening to the consciousness of its resources, a little band proceeded to the work of organization in an humble room at the corner of Broome street and Broadway, amid surroundings like those that marked the birth of Jesus. He thanked God for the present prosperity of the parish. The musical part of the service was well rendered by a largely augmented choir.

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, HARLEM.

A large congregation attended the 10:30 A. M. services in St. Andrew's Church, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street and Fourth avenue, Harlem, yesterday. The new church was beautifully decorated, the chancel being fully ornamented with a variety of evergreens, and handsome festoons extended from the ceiling to the capitals of the pillars on either side of the building. The decorations about the altar and pulpit were unique and exceedingly attractive. The singing in this church was exceptionally good yesterday. The musical part of the programme was under the superintendence of Mr. Charles W. Meding, organist, the choir consisting of Mrs. D. Ketchum, soprano; Mrs. D. Ryerson, alto; Mr. G. Browne, tenor; Mr. J. Quillard, bass, assisted by members of St. Andrew's choir. Rev. George W. Draper, D. D., Rector, preached a sermon on the occasion from St. Luke, ii., 14: "Glory to God in the highest; and on earth, peace, good will toward men." This is the anthem, he said, which first of all the angels sung on the first Christmas day that ever was, and at its earliest hour. Consequently it is the key-note; it gives the true pitch and rhythm, the tone, the true expression for all the Christmas anthems that ever have been or ever shall be sung—or more, it is the grand, though simple, theme of the glorious figure of promise whose repetitions in every conceivable form have been chasing each other through all the Christmas anthems and carols of the ages. Hearts that were stirred by every variety of feeling, from the most despondent to the most exultant, triumphant, have added to it their peculiar strains. Tongues that have spoken every variety of language in which Gospel truths have ever been confessed, have each repeated it in their peculiar version. Ears that have been trained by every variety and development of culture have bestowed upon it the best they knew of musical expression; and hands that have been skilled in playing every instrument, from the shepherd's pipe and the minstrel's harp up to that combination and paragon of every sort, the very king of instruments, the organ, have lavished on this Christmas song their skillfullest performances: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." It is a song of three parts, whose very form is suggestive of adaptiveness to music. "Glory to God in the highest" sweeps us up in pious rapture, on to the soaring treble "And on earth peace," brings us down to the calm sure ground of the satisfying bass, while "Good will toward men" allows us to revel in all the entrancing melodies of mutual charity, which grow from the interchanges of God's descending and men's ascending love—whose scene is midway in the scale of being. Let us try to sing this song, then—to sing it meaningly—to sing it feelingly, with the heart and with the understanding, that it may, indeed, bring glory to God, and peace and joy to our souls. "Glory to God in the highest." Glory on high to God on high! For as He is, indeed, the most high, therefore deserves He of us the loveliest things we have to give him. Angels as well as men should be in ecstacies over the great favor and good will of God, revealed in this day's birth. Make the day of this work a glorious day, and make it twelve days long instead of twice twelve hours, and holy days as well as holidays, each one a longer and gladder festival than any other. Make it glorious in every place, as well at home with our loving gifts and merry greetings and carols, as here in church with our generous offerings and joyful hymns; and make it glorious in every age, as well this day and this year, no matter how sad it be to many of us on other scores, yet just as glad for all that on this account of Christmas, as though it were the very day and year that He was born. In all the ways we can, let us glorify God to-day, for never should we wish more to give Him glory than now, when we are reminded how out of His love for us He laid so much of His own glory beside. Sing also peace on earth this day; peace between the nations of the world—such as our Lord's birth actually brought with it, when, for the first time in many centuries, in token of the prevalence of universal peace, the gates of the Temple at Rome were closed. Now is the time to pray for the renewal and confirmation of this blessing; to sing with redoubled fervor, "We beseech Thee to hear us, Oh Lord, that it may please Thee to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord;" for when all the world shall come to believe and rejoice that the birth of its Redeemer has made every race and nation, every class and condition in it a king—then, and not before, may we look to see the words of Isaiah come true: "In that day shall there be an highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian unto Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. And in that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land whom the Lord of hosts shall bless, saying: Blessed be Egypt, my people, and Assyria, the work of my hands, and Israel, mine inheritance." Peace on earth we pray in the sense that the partition wall between the Jews and Gentile churches, between the spiritual Israel and Israel after the flesh, may be broken down; peace on earth in the sense that all divisions in God's Church, all divisions among its members, and in Christian parishes and families, and individuals may be healed; and further still, sing we, peace on earth which this world cannot give, that is, peace with Heaven; that not only Isaiah's highway may be thrown around the world, and St. Paul's demolition of the partition wall between Jew and Gentile be accomplished, and the saving of our Saviour's vesture from rending, recorded by St. John, be effected in His church, but also Jacob's ladder from Bethel to heaven set up, and peaceable and blessed intercourse established between here and there—by angels ascending to carry up our prayers, and by angels descending to bring back the boons to be granted in reply. In the third place let us sing "Good-will toward men." Shall we sing it now? Shall we sing it with the angels? It seems a little bold, I grant you, for us that have neither angels' harps or voices, nor, best of all, their near and clear visions of these spiritual blessings, and the pure ecstacy it kindles in their souls! But even the angels are not so far away from us. There are times and places when we and they draw very near, aye, and meet together, and that to sing. 'Tis here and now. If ever in all our lives we are fit along with them to sing as well as pray for heavenly peace on earth, it is when we all kneel as brethren of one household, side by side, to eat of that one bread and drink of that one cup, the symbols of that body that He gave to be broken, and of that blood He gave to be shed for us who were His enemies, that we might be friends. Finally we should labor to find peace in the good will of God, and to give Him all glory who hath appointed peace our portion here, and glory our hope laid up there. For we may be certain that the same good-will that was able to bring the son of God from heaven to earth, shall avail to lift up the sons of men from earth to the glory of heaven, there with the blessed angels to sing this hymn eternally.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.

The decorations in St. Patrick's Cathedral, corner of Mulberry and Prince streets, were not so profuse yesterday as on former occasions, and were entirely confined to the altar and its immediate surroundings. Shortly before 5 A. M. the cathedral was opened. The attendance at this early hour was large. High mass was celebrated by Vicar General Very Rev. Father Quinn. The prayer of Kyrie Eleison was sung to the music of Mandanice; then followed the "Gloria" by a full choir. The ordinary mass was celebrated. At 10:30 o'clock the Pontifical high mass was celebrated by the Most Rev. Archbishop McCloskey. The assistant priest was Very Rev. Vicar General Quinn. The music selected for the occasion was Haydn's beautiful third mass in D under the direction of the organist, Prof. Gustavus Schmitz. The choir was assisted by a powerful chorus from the Philharmonic Society. The solo singers were Miss Jennie Sullivan, soprano; Miss Ballard, alto; Mr. Bersin, tenor; Mr. Urecks, basso, and Henry Schmitz, conductor. At the elevation "Ecce Panis," soprano solo was given with French-horn accompaniment by Mr. Groz. The "Agnus Dei" was rendered by Miss Ballard, alto solo; and just preceding the sermon "Veni Creator" as a solo soprano was sung by Miss J. Sullivan. At the end of the mass the Archbishop pronounced the Papal benediction. Vicar General Quinn preached, selecting for his text the Gospel for the day, second chapter of St. Luke first and following verses: "And it came to pass that in these days there went out a decree from Tiberius Augustus that the whole world would be taxed in consequence of the birth of Jesus of the Tribe of David," &c.

AT THE SEVERAL INSTITUTIONS.

The Christmas festival was celebrated yesterday in all the charitable and public institutions of the City by allowing the inmates the usual good cheer supplied on previous occasions. In the morning, religious services were held in the chapels attached to the institutions, and in the afternoon a substantial dinner was provided, the occupants spending the remainder of the day in social enjoyment. The officials of the various establishments were untiring in their exertions to promote the comfort of those intrusted to their care.

FEEDING THE DESTITUTE AT CASTLE GARDEN.

Yesterday ample means were provided by the Commissioners of Emigration at Castle Garden for supplying the poor and destitute emigrants food. Owing to the scarcity of employment, a large number of emigrants, who have only been in the country for a few years, have returned to the City, and every night seek shelter at Castle Garden. Sometimes they are supplied with breakfast before leaving the Garden in search of work, but seldom receive any further relief during the day. Here people prefer to exert themselves in search of employment to going to Ward's Island, where the Commissioners are supposed to care for them for five years. The number of emigrants yesterday at Castle Garden was over 200, including many families, all of whom were in a destitute state. Some of them were women with families of children, awaiting the arrival of letters from friends, with money to pay their way to the interior of the country. At 8 o'clock in the morning they were supplied with breakfast, consisting of tea, coffee, bread and butter, and cheese. At 2 o'clock they were plentifully supplied with soup, beef, potatoes, and bread, and in the evening with supper. Among those who received relief were a number of Italians. The arrangements were carried out under the direction of Col. John Coonan, of the Landing Bureau; Deputy Superintendent Henry Jackson, and S. T. Tompkins, of the night watch. The recipients expressed their gratitude at the kindness of the commission in making provision for them.

AT THE TOMBS.

Christmas Day at the Tombs was not marked with any special celebration to distinguish it from the other days in the year, and to remind the 500 inmates confined within its dreary walls of the recurrence of the festive season, unless it was the religious services conducted by several benevolent ladies, under the direction of Miss Gilbert. There was no Christmas dinner, and the only addition to the ordinary prison fare were two barrels of apples, sent to the prison by Miss Gilbert. Mrs. Kane also sent a box of candies to be distributed among the juvenile offenders imprisoned there. No visitors were admitted to see the prisoners. At 2 P. M. Miss Gilbert, accompanied by several ladies, arrived at the prison, and a short religious service was gone through with in the main corridor. At the conclusion of the service a short address was delivered by Miss Gilbert. No extra privileges were allowed the prisoners, and Christmas Day was as dull and dreary to them as can well be imagined.

ON GOVERNOR'S ISLAND.

The garrison on Governor's Island were up and stirring long before the bugles had sounded the reveille to salute the Christmas morning. Vast preparations had been made for the due celebration of the festival. The master baker, Philip Charles, and head cook Thomas Demming were engaged the whole of the previous night preparing for the feast. First Sergeant Erskine, Sergeant Michael Smith, and the other non-commissioned officers superintended the arrangements for their companies, and were as energetic and ubiquitous as if an enemy had forced the Narrows and the first shell had fallen in Fort Columbus. Major Roy, the Commandant, entertained the officers at his quarters. The snow covered the esplanade, and parade was dispensed with. The company stationed on Bedloe's Island was also provided with good Christmas cheer.

BELLEVUE HOSPITAL.

The usual Christmas festivities were observed in Bellevue Hospital, yesterday. The friends of the patients visited the institution in great numbers, bringing with them little delicacies to please the fastidious palates of the invalids. Many a pale cheek flushed, and a bright sparkle lit the eye of many a sufferer, as a kindly hand grasped the worn fingers, or whispered words of comfort and hope. Warden Brennan provided his usual Christmas treat for the convalescent patients. In the afternoon the following programme was performed for their amusement by the McGauley troupe:

Grand Opening............By the Troupe

The roaring Irish farce of PADDY MILES, The Limerick Boy.

Paddy Miles............M. F. McGauley
Dr. Coates............P. H. Hanlon
Harry Coates............J. J. Delaney
Joab, the gardener............J. F. Dillon
Mrs. Fidget............P. McGuire
Comic Song............Master Waters
Double Clog Dance............Masters O'Donell and Weldon
Gendarmes............McGauley and Ennis
Footsteps in the Sand............Johnny Meehan

O WELL, IT'S NO USE.
Ennis, McGarvey and McGauley.
Mississippi Fling............Johnny Meehan

POMPEY'S BLUNDERS.
Messrs. Hanlon and McGauley.
Irish Banjo Solo............M. F. McGauley
Double Song and Dance............Masters Nevins and Collins
The Mulligan Guards....Messrs. Delaney and McGauley
The whole to conclude with the laughable extravaganza of

BAD WHISKY.
Mary Ann............P. McGuire
Mike............M. F. McGauley

WARD'S ISLAND.

The residents on Ward's Island were provided by the Commissioners of Emigration with the customary Christmas dinner, in addition to which a sum of $100 was voted by the Commissioners to purchase toys for the children. The little ones were made happy by the distribution of these small trifles which gladden the young heart. Christmas was spent there, under the charge of the Commissioners, as happy as the circumstances permitted.

RANDALL'S ISLAND.

On Randall's Island the inmates of the various institutions were regaled with a substantial dinner by the Commissioners of Charities and Correction. The Soldiers' Home wore a cheering appearance, and the veterans looked happy. Some attempt was made at ornamentation, and considering the limited means, did credit to the designers. Kind friends outside did not forget them, and various presents, suitable for the season, helped them to pass a pleasant Christmas Day. They ask donations of books for their library.

ON BLACKWELL'S ISLAND.

On Blackwell's Island the day was celebrated in the usual way. The buildings of the Lunatic Asylum were decorated with evergreens and flowers, and in the evening a magic-lantern entertainment was given under the direction of the Warden. William M. Tweed passed the day quietly in the hospital of the Penitentiary. He was visited by his two sons, who spent the afternoon with him.

THE HOWARD MISSION.

At the Howard Mission some seven hundred boys and girls were cared for yesterday. They had their Christmas feast first, and their exhibition afterwards. Gen. B. Fiske, the President of the Institution, Rev. Dr. Fulton, of Brooklyn, and Rev. Mr. Danner, of Orange, N. Y., made short addresses. The children then went through their exercises. The good people of New-York did not let these little ones want for presents. To each little girl was given a worsted sack and a pair of woolen stockings, and to each boy a Cardigan jacket and a pair of socks. Toys enough had been furnished to give each child a present. One of the most pleasant incidents during the day, was the presentation, by the girls of the Bible class, of a check for $50, and a pair of gold-bound eye-glasses to Prof. Theodore Perkins. For the last twelve years this gentleman has taught the children music, without fee or reward, and these girls who have grown up around him, desired to show their appreciation of his kindness by making him a present on Christmas Day. They worked at odd times and saved their earnings in order to accomplish this object. A large bag of confections was given to each child at the end of the proceedings of the day.

AT THE LADIES' MISSION.

At the Ladies' Mission, at the Five Points, on the site of the Old Brewery, over 800 children's hearts were made glad by a bounteous distribution of good things to eat, and toys to play with. They were assembled together at 11 yesterday morning, and after a short address by Mr. J. N. Shaffer, the Superintendent, their exhibition was given. It consisted of recitations, carol singing, and dialogues by the pupils. This school had an average attendance of 540 pupils per day during the present month, and yesterday their presents were distributed to all who came, irrespective of creed or nationality. Over 800 bags of confectionery and dried fruit were given to the children when they went away.

THE NEWSBOYS.

The generous kindness of Mr. W. M. Fliess, of No. 47 Broadway, provided the little fellows at the Newsboys' Lodging-house with a bountiful repast. Before the feast Mr. Fliess entered the room, and was received by the boys with a characteristic outburst of applause, in response to which he made a pleasant address, concluding by wishing his young friends a merry Christmas. The good things were then attacked, and in a short time sad havoc was made of the turkeys and other dainties supplied. All the little fellows were happy, smiling countenances, and evidently enjoyed themselves hugely.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

Roosevelt Hospital, Fifty-ninth street and Ninth avenue, celebrated the festival by a musical service on Christmas Eve, at which carols were sung by a volunteer choir under the direction of Rev. Alex. Thompson; and a bountiful dinner yesterday afternoon, at which the 170 inmates and officers participated. The services were held in the corridor of the men's surgical ward, the walls of which were adorned with festoons of evergreens and appropriate texts of Scripture in letters of green and red. Each of the six wards had a Christmas tree of its own.

At St. Luke's Hospital, West Fifty-fourth street, corner of Fifth avenue, 150 persons were regaled with a sumptuous dinner at 2 o'clock.

At the New-York Foundling Asylum, Sixty-eighth street, between Lexington and Third avenues, 150 poor little waifs were delighted by an extensive assortment of drums, trumpets, rocking-horses, and other toys in which infantile childhood peculiarly delights, the generous gift of Mr. Jeremiah Quinlan. A bountiful dinner was furnished by Mrs. Daniel Devlin. Over seventy homeless young girls and mothers are cared for by this asylum, in addition to its regular charge.

At the Union Home and School for Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans, Eleventh avenue and One Hundred and Fifty-first street, the usual Christmas festivities were held.

At the German Hospital, corner Fourth avenue and Seventy-seventh street, dinner was provided for the fifty patients at 1 o'clock. Later in the afternoon presents were distributed from two Christmas trees in each ward.

The 360 inmates of the Nursery and Child's Hospital, Lexington avenue and Fifty-first street, all received presents. Religious services were conducted in the chapel at 11:30 A. M.

Christmas dinner was given to the patients of the Women's Hospital, corner Fiftieth street and Fourth avenue, in the afternoon. Over seventy were present.

The Protestant Episcopal Orphan Asylum, corner Forty-ninth street and Lexington avenue, gave a Christmas dinner to the children under its charge at 2 o'clock P. M. The anniversary of the asylum will be celebrated Dec. 30, at 11 o'clock, and a Christmas tree provided for the little ones Dec. 31, at the same hour.

At the Barnabas House, No. 304 Mulberry street, over 500 dinners were given to the poor of the neighborhood. The morning services of the mission adjoining were well attended.

At the lodging-rooms of the Howard Relief Association, No. 49 Leonard street, 275 men, consisting of clerks, salesmen, and others, were treated to a pleasant repast, which was heartily enjoyed.

An elaborate dinner, comprising turkey, plum-pudding, cakes, ice-cream, and everything which enters into the composition of an enjoyable meal, was served to about 200 boys, at the St. Vincent's Home, Nos. 53 and 55 Warren street. Before partaking, Father Drumgoole, the manager of the institution, spoke briefly to those present on the importance of the day and on the duties that God and society demand of them. Mr. James Leavy, of the firm of Rielly, Leavy & Co., No. 1 Beaver street, bore all the expense of the affair.

FIVE POINTS HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

The day was kept up at the Five Points House of Industry in the usual bountiful style peculiar to that institution. The chapel was beautifully decorated with evergreens, and on the right of the platform there was a beautiful Christmas-tree loaded with toys and studded with wax tapers. The exercises of the day, consisting of singing, dialogues, recitations, and calisthenic exhibitions by the children, were carried on under the direction of the Superintendent, Mr. W. F. Barnard, and the teachers connected with the institution. They were begun at 1 o'clock and continued until 3, when they were suspended, and the children were marched to the large hall at the top of the house, where a real Christmas dinner awaited them. There was roast turkey, with cranberry sauce, pork and beans, vegetables, celery, pickles, mince pie, bread and butter, and coffee. After they had partaken of a hearty meal (and a pretty sight it was to see so many bright and happy little faces around the board) they were all marched back to the chapel, and the exhibition concluded with a visit from Santa Claus himself, who came to see the children out of a real chimney-piece which had been set up on the platform expressly for that purpose. About 320 children were present and took part in the performances. The "old woman who lived in a shoe" was capitally represented by one of the little girls, who stationed herself in her place of residence with all her children around her, at the main entrance to the chapel. She received the money contributions of the visitors, which amounted to some $50 in the course of the day. The presents were distributed after the exercises were over, in the respective class-rooms. Every child had a present, and it is doubtful whether in all New-York there was yesterday a happier lot of children than those in the House of Industry.

THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.

The inmates of the different institutions under the care of the Children's Aid Society passed the day in feasting and amusements of various sorts.

At the Girls' Lodging-house, No. 27 St. Mark's place, an excellent dinner of turkey, chickens, and plum pudding was provided at 2 o'clock for about fifty young ladies, under the direction of Mrs. E. S. Hurley, the matron. In the evening a reunion was held of the present and former inmates, when an impromptu programme of music, singing, and congratulatory addresses was executed. Through the kindness of Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, the boys of the Sixteenth Ward Lodging-house were supplied with an excellent dinner of turkey, plum pudding, and cake. After dinner the boys retired to their school-room, which was decorated with evergreens, and listened to addresses by Messrs. Theodore and Cornelius Roosevelt, interspersed with singing by the boys, accompanied by Mr. Hilborne Roosevelt on the organ.

The Eleventh Ward Lodging-house was the scene of much jollity. About seventy-five boys sat down to a good dinner of fowls and pudding, after which they were allowed to sing and speak pieces of their own composition. The dining-room was decorated with laurel, the words "Welcome," "Merry Christmas," adorning the wall behind the Superintendent's desk. The Rivington Street Lodging-house has an advantage over those in the other wards in being located near a conservatory, the proprietors of which kindly loaned their valuable plants and exotics for the occasion. Evergreen wreaths adorned the walls; every available space was occupied by majolica pots, containing blooming lilies, tuberoses, and other fragrant flowers. A large aquarium of gold-fish stood on the Superintendent's desk. A good dinner was provided for the boys at 7:30 P. M. After partaking of it they adjourned to the school-room, where they were addressed by Dr. Miller, Dr. Lange, and others, to whom the boys listened with interest and attention. Singing by the boys, accompanied on the piano by one of the lady teachers, completed the programme, at the close of which a warm suit of under-clothing was presented to each of the boys, in number about 100.

THE DAY AMONG THE GERMANS.

Among the Germans the day was generally celebrated as a holiday. The head-quarters of the numerous societies and clubs were extensively decorated with Christmas trees and pine foliage. The Arion Vocal Society gave an entertainment of vocal and musical exercises at St. Mark's place, for which a rich programme had been prepared. The affair attracted a large attendance of the friends of the popular organization, and was fully enjoyed by all participating. The Schillerbund, a popular German vocal organization, gave a Christmas soirée at the Turn Hall, in Fourth street, last night, including a dramatic entertainment. The affair was wound up by a soirée dansante. The German Quartet Club gave a soirée dansante at its rooms, No. 10 Stanton street. There was also a distribution of Christmas-prizes. The Suavian Saengerbund gave a Christmas soirée at the Walhalla Hall, in Orchard street, a feature of which was a splendidly illuminated Christmas tree, decorated with Christmas gifts, which were distributed among the guests. The Allemania Maennerchor gave a soirée at its rooms, No. 9 Second avenue, which also included a distribution of Christmas prizes, and which was wound up by a ball. The New-York Maennerchor gave a concert at Terrace Garden last night, for which a programme composed of some choice compositions had been prepared, in the rendition of which several trained soloists assisted. The affair was wound up by a ball. The German Women's Benevolent Society No. 1 gave a ball at the Harmonic Rooms, the surplus proceeds of which will go to a charitable fund established by the society. The Armenia Vocal Society engaged in a Christmas fête at the Columbia Garden, in Greenwich avenue, including a musical and dramatic entertainment and a distribution of prizes. The German churches were open for the usual Christmas services, and were largely attended.

THE DAY IN BROOKLYN.

The principal celebration of Christmas Day in Brooklyn was, as befits the City of Churches, of a religious character. At midnight a merry Christmas peal rang out from the magnificent chimes of St. Ann's Church on the Heights, waking the echoes in the silent streets, and announcing to all the birth of that day in the year held most sacred among Christian men. Early services were held in most of the churches. The day had scarcely dawned when the streets were filled with hurrying crowds of soberly-clad church-goers, intent on participating in the morning services. Later in the day, when the sun had risen well into the heavens, and dispelled by its genial warmth the raw atmosphere of the earlier hours, the streets began to be filled with gayly-dressed crowds, all bent on making the most of the holiday. At the principal churches special Christmas services were held, and largely attended. At St. Ann's on the Heights, the services were of a most imposing character. The interior of the church was gorgeously decorated, the altars being covered with satin and gold-embroidered cloth. Just before the commencement of the services the sexton, Mr. Thos. Lawrie, rang the following chimes:

1. Christmas Peal.
2. Hark! What Mean those Holy Voices?
3. Hark! the Herald Angels Sing.
4. Hosannah to King David's Son.
5. In the Lowly Manger Lying.
6. Lo! Descending, the Heavens Rending.
7. Glory to God in the Highest.
8. Joy to the World, the Lord is Come.

The musical part of the services, under the direction of Dr. Cutler, aided by a magnificent amateur choir, was of a most brilliant character. The services at Trinity Church, corner of Clinton and Montague streets, were imposing and largely attended. The fame of the choir of thirty male voices attached to St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, corner of Clinton and Carrol streets, drew large crowds to the forenoon services. Impressive services were held in the Narcy Avenue Presbyterian Church, of which Rev. Dr. Chas. Hall Everest is Pastor. At the Roman Catholic Cathedral on Jay street, and at most of the other Roman Catholic churches, solemn high mass was celebrated. In most of the Sunday-schools the children held Christmas festivals. The inmates of the Truants' Home, the Brooklyn Orphan Asylum, and of most of the charitable institutions were treated to a Christmas dinner of turkey. The newsboys were furnished with a splendid supper at the Newsboys' Lodging-houses, No. 61 Poplar street and No. 139 Van Brunt street. All the city theatres were crowded, both at the matinée and evening performances.

IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

As elsewhere, the churches throughout Westchester County were handsomely decorated, and memorial services were held in most of them. In two of the Morrisania churches there were Sunday-school concerts. In the Sunday-school room of the First Methodist Church, in Yonkers, there were a magic-lantern exhibition, and a concert by the scholars. In Tarrytown the anniversary concert of the Baptist Sunday-school was held. The Baptist Church of Peekskill, gave an entertainment in the evening, and the children of St. Peter's Episcopal Church were entertained in good style. At the County Poor-house and at the Jail, Christmas dinners were provded for those confined within them.

MASONIC ELECTIONS.

On Wednesday evening last, at a meeting of the Evangelist Lodge No. 600, A. F. and A. M., the following officers were elected: John F. Baldwin, Master; J. M. Layman, Senior Warden; W. Colter, Junior Warden; and J. H. Jones, Secretary. The installation ceremonies were performed by Ellwood E. Thorne, Deputy Grand Master.

The Adelphi Council No. 71 R. and S. M., elected the following officers for 1874 on Wednesday evening last: T. I. E. E. Thorne, M.; R. I. H. W. Morris, D. M.; I. C. F. Emerson, P. C. W.; R. P. Josiah Shove, Treasurer; Comp. Wm. B. Shove, Recorder; Comp. J. Amon Foster, C. of G.; Comp. J. H. Colgate, C. of C.; Comp. J. S. Chappell, Chaplain; Comp. C. C. Greenough, Steward; Comp. J. H. Murray, Sentinel.

BEATEN AND ROBBED.

Between 1 and 2 o'clock yesterday morning, while Matthew Lacey, aged forty, residing in One Hundredth street, near Ninth avenue, was passing through Forty-fifth street, and when near Tenth avenue, he was set upon by a gang of thieves, headed by one Edward Shields. Lacey was overpowered, severely beaten, and robbed of a watch and a small amount of money, with which his assailants escaped. Lacey made his way to the West Forty-seventh Street Police Station, where he was attended by Dr. Satterlee and was then escorted to his home by a policeman. Shields is known to the police, who are searching for him.

CITY AND SUBURBAN NEWS.

NEW-YORK.

Superintendent Warrin, of Lord & Taylor's, was the recipient of an elegant service of silver on Christmas eve as a token of respect by the employes.

James Carney, a resident of Mott Haven, fell into the Harlem River at One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street and Second avenue, yesterday morning. He was rescued by a policeman and taken home.

Patrolman Archibald, of the mounted Police, while endeavoring to stop a runaway team at Fifth avenue and Thirty-second street, yesterday, fell from his horse and sustained serious injuries.

Mr. William Walsh, the County Clerk elect, states that he intends to make no changes in the office until after he enters upon his duties and ascertains the condition of affairs. Mr. Henry Gumbleton, the present Deputy, will, however, positively be retained.

BROOKLYN.

Edward Kearnes broke into the liquor store of Thos. Finn, at No. 229 Hudson avenue, yesterday morning, and was captured while in the act of stealing a quantity of cigars.

Jane Meken, a servant, was arrested yesterday by Detective Curran on a charge of stealing a silk dress, valued at $50, from the house of Mr. Isaac Wood, No. 164 Duffield street.

Patrick Meehan, aged sixty-one years, while intoxicated yesterday, stabbed two boys named William Kelly and Thomas Farrell, who were annoying him in the street. The wounds are not serious. Meehan was arrested.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

Peekskill is to have an independent water supply. It is proposed to establish her reservoir on the Van Courtlandt mill property.

The flour and feed store of John Moffat, in Yonkers, was damaged by fire to the amount of $1,600 on Tuesday. The flames are supposed to have been of incendiary origin.

The new reservoir at Lake View, from which Yonkers is to draw her water supply, has been completed and the aqueducts have been laid. The works will be formally thrown open to public use on New-Year Day.

Michael Crawford, a tramp, who interrupted the services in St. John's Church, at Yonkers, on Sunday, by the use of most obscene language, was on Wednesday committed by Justice Band to the County Jail for three months.

The laborers recently in the employ of Wetherell, the contractor who was engaged upon an improvement in Yonkers, have placed claims for $8,000 against their late employer in the hands of Francis Larkin and Ralph E. Prune for collection.

Matthew Train recently removed a frame house from the rear to the front of his lot, on Clinton street, Yonkers. The building had been placed in the new position and had been raised in order that a new story might be constructed underneath, when it was blown down by a gale. The loss is about $1,000.

Two burglars made an attempt on Tuesday night to enter the dwelling of Mr. Thomas B. Peck, at Rye. They forced open the blinds, and were at work upon the window about midnight, when their operations aroused Mr. Peck from his slumbers, and he was about to give them a warm reception when they became alarmed and fled.

Officer Gleason, of the Grand Central Depot force, on Wednesday afternoon, arrested Charles Talman, about eighteen years old, on a charge of having been concerned, with three others, in the commission of a series of burglaries and robberies—one, in breaking into the ticket-office of the passenger station of the Harlem Railroad Company, at Morrisania, and stealing therefrom a number of tickets, an overcoat, vest, and pants, and other property; also, breaking into the ticket-office at Mott Haven, and stealing therefrom $25 to $30 worth of tickets and some articles of clothing; also, in stealing property from the Knickerbocker Hotel, at Mott Haven. The accused was taken before Justice Hauptman and committed for trial.

STATEN ISLAND.

At the Seamen's Retreat, at Stapleton, 150 sick and disabled sailors were regaled with a roast-turkey dinner by the Superintendent, Mr. Edgar. Upward of 400 worn-out sailors were similarly entertained at New-Brighton.

A quarrel took place Wednesday evening in the liquor saloon of James O'Reilly, on New-York avenue, Clifton, between the proprietor and a party of roughs, who refused to leave the store when requested to do so. During the affray Reilly drew a revolver and shot one of them in the head, it is feared, fatally. He was arrested and held for examination.

NEW-JERSEY.

Thomas Morgan, who accidentally shot himself at Ramapo a few days ago, has since died.

The contagion in Westfield has not been so serious as at first stated. Only three cases of a malignant type are reported, and five cases of the ordinary type of small-pox.

George P. Nichols, the coachman who, at Hackensack a few days ago, robbed the safe of Mrs. Fair, in whose employ he was, of $800 in money, was captured on Tuesday at Rhinebeck, N. Y., and on Wednesday lodged in the Bergen County Jail. The accused acknowledged the theft and, restored $565 of the stolen money.

Joseph Van Mater, a resident of Chambersburg, was found lying unconscious upon the outskirts of the city on Wednesday night. He was removed to Trenton, where he died after a few hours. He had been drinking freely, and, falling, lay in the road until he had been so badly frozen that it was found impossible to resuscitate him.

THE NEW-ROCHELLE OUTRAGE.

Up to yesterday afternoon no information had been received in regard to the arrest of any of the burglars engaged in the outrage and robbery committed at the Emmett Cottage, in the lower section of New-Rochelle, adjacent to the Pelham Priory. It was ascertained yesterday that six of the robbers, after stealing a pair of oars belonging to Mr. Edgars, a neighbor of Mr. Emmett's, proceeded to City Island, and there attempted to steal a boat belonging to Capt. Stringer, about 6:30 o'clock on Tuesday morning, about an hour and a half after leaving the house they had robbed, but were detected by Capt. Stringer, when they halted and engaged the owner of the boat to row them across the Sound to the Long Island shore, and gave him $6 for his services. They told Capt. Stringer that they had been attending a prize fight, and that the Sheriff was in pursuit of them; they were therefore willing to give him $1 each to be placed beyond his reach. The other five men of the gang, with a large dog they had with them, are supposed to have proceeded toward Westchester or Throgg's Neck, and rowed thence across the Sound to Long Island, and then made their way to New-York by railroad or steam-boat. It is believed that had the robbers succeeded in getting the key of the safe, and thus avoided a delay of over two hours, they would have committed other robberies in the neighborhood before they left. The supposition that there was a rich booty in the safe, induced the robbers to obtain possession of its contents. They carried off three gold watches, some silver-ware, $150 in money, a gun, some articles of clothing, &c., valued in all at about $800, and did considerable damage by attempting to blow open the safe.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

Thomas Lane, alias Musgrave, was committed for trial, yesterday, by Justice Morgan, at the Tombs, for having stolen twenty sovereigns and $30 in greenbacks from Timothy Coughlin, a Pennsylvania miner, while he was drunk in a lager-beer saloon in West Broadway....Coroner Young was notified yesterday to hold an inquest in the case of Richard Begbie, a native of Scotland, forty-five years of age, late of No. 559 Clinton street, Brooklyn, whose death occurred at the Park Hospital from injuries received on the 19th inst. by falling on the sidewalk at the corner of Wall and Broad streets....A fire occurred at 2 o'clock yesterday morning in the basement of No. 519 Eighth avenue, occupied by Thomas McEnery, dealer in wooden and willow ware, causing $700 damage to stock and building....John Price, of No. 240 East Forty-first street, was assaulted, yesterday, by his son Thomas, who struck him on the head with a bottle, injuring him severely....Philip Gaynor, aged thirty-five, of No. 1,484 Second avenue, attempted to commit suicide yesterday by taking laudanum, and is lying at his home in a precarious condition in consequence.

SHOOTING AFFRAY ON A STEAM-SHIP.

At 2 o'clock yesterday morning a fracas occurred on board the steam-ship Miradon, lying at Pier No. 14 East River, which resulted in one of the crew being shot and severely wounded. It appears that Alexander Craig, a young Scotchman, is employed as a watchman on board the steamer, and, while so engaged yesterday morning, John Morrison, Hamilton Murray, and Henry Brown, three firemen belonging to the vessel, came on board. They were intoxicated, and commenced to abuse Craig in an outrageous manner. They insisted upon getting more liquor, and, believing that there was some in the Captain's cabin, they made an attempt to force open the door of the state-room. Craig warned them to desist, and threatened that unless they abandoned their nefarious purpose he would fire upon them. Morrison, who appeared to be the leader of the party, approached Craig with the evident intention of striking him, when the latter fired upon his assailant with a revolver and shot him in the left cheek, wounding him severely. The pistol-shot attracted the attention of Roundsman Spence and Patrolman Quinn, of the First Precinct, who hastened to the pier and boarded the vessel. They arrested the whole party, and took them to the New Street Police Station. Craig, Brown, and Murray were locked up for examination. Morrison was taken to Park Hospital. Craig is thirty years of age, and resides at No. 39 East Broadway. He claims to have acted entirely in self-defense.

SAD DROWNING ACCIDENT.

SHAMEFUL INEFFICIENCY OF THE FULTON FERRY COMPANY.

When the Fulton Ferry-boat Farragut left the New-York slip at 6:30 o'clock, last evening, a respectably-attired man took his station outside the chains, on the left side of the rear end of the boat. Both the deck-hands were in the forward part. The unknown man appeared to be under the influence of liquor, and soon began to nod, as if drowsy. When the boat had reached the middle of the river, he suddenly fell overboard, and floated into the darkness with the foam of the paddle-wheels. Instantly the greatest excitement prevailed among the large number of passengers on board. Several who saw the accident rushed to get life-preservers. They were compelled to go to the centre of the boat, unhook a ladder, place it against the opposite wall, mount it, and cut several strips. By that time the unfortunate man was out of sight, going with the ebb tide in the direction of the bay. A faint shout for help came over the water, and the boat was started in the direction of the Sound. Meantime the passengers, who had crowded to the rails, were shouting encouragement to the drowning man, and yelling to the pilot to lower the small boat from the upper deck. The servants of the company responded by sending a man forward with a boat-hook. For the next quarter of an hour a despairing cry of "Help! help!" was heard at intervals, now near, now distant, now seemingly to the right and now to the left. The scene was an extremely painful one. The passengers, wrought up to a pitch of frenzied indignation, shouted order after order to lower the boat, and loudly cursed the dilatoriness of the officers. In reply, the pilot called out for some of them to go up and help. A dozen rushed to the door leading to the stairs, but it was locked. At length, after fully twenty minutes' delay, the small boat was launched, but the man had ceased crying five minutes before, and the search was soon given up. Nobody on board seemed to know the unfortunate wretch. He is described as tall and dressed in dark clothes. The Farragut had drifted nearly to Governor's Island. On the long trip up to the Brooklyn slip the passengers expressed their indignation at the inefficiency of the company in the strongest terms.

"THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY."

The Committee of Safety appointed at the late mass-meeting of the working men held at Cooper Institute, have issued a call to the working classes throughout the City, to organize themselves into working men's clubs. Several meetings are to be held in the different wards next week. The first will take place in the Eighth Ward, in Hudson Hall, in Hudson street. The following is a copy of the appeal which has been issued by George Blair, the Secretary of the Committee of Safety:

"Fellow-workingmen! The Winter is only beginning, and from causes which we could not avoid, nearly all employment has already been suspended. Cold and hunger are staring in our faces, and nobody can tell how long the misery will last. Nobody will attempt to help you, if you don't do something yourselves. It is now certainly time that you meet to consider how the dark prospects of the coming months are to be met. Therefore do not fail to attend these mass-meetings. Come one, come all. The greatest good for the greatest number. Not of dollars but of people. By order of the Committee of Safety."

FATAL RESULT OF A FRACAS.

On the night of Nov. 22, a fracas occurred in front of No. 326 Pearl street, between two members of the notorious "Swamp Gang," named Jack Sullivan and James Mullaly, during which Sullivan drew a revolver and shot Mullaly in the foot, causing a painful wound. Mullaly was taken to Park Hospital, and soon after was tranferred to Bellevue Hospital, where he lingered until yesterday, when death ensued. Coroner Young was yesterday notified to hold an inquest in the matter. Sullivan is at present in the Tombs, and will be detained to await the result of the inquest.

STABBED BY UNKNOWN PERSONS.

At 2:30 o'clock yesterday morning John Meara, aged twenty-one, of No. 180 Elizabeth street while passing through Mott street, near Hester, was set upon by some unknown ruffians, and during the fracas which ensued Meara was stabbed in the left hand, and was severely wounded. He was attended at the Mulberry Street Police Station by Dr. Cook, and was then taken to his home. His assailants made their escape.

NOT A HOMICIDE.

Deputy Coroner Marsh yesterday made a post-mortem examination of the remains of George Schermer, a German, formerly of No. 575 West Fifty-seventh street, who died at Bellevue Hospital several days ago. Death was supposed to have resulted from injuries to his head, alleged to have been inflicted by his son with an ax, but the autopsy showed that death was caused by Bright's disease of the kidneys, the result of excessive intemperance.

[Advertisement.]
Prepare for "Merry Christmas." "What shall I buy for my wife?" is paterfamilias' anxious inquiry. "A set of furs," say we, which you will find at KNOX'S, of the finest quality and most economical price. At the same time you can select your own holiday hat. Knox's stores are at No. 212 Broadway, in the Prescott House, and Fifth Avenue Hotel.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

In steam-ship City of Havana, from Havana.—Charles Mayer, Carlos Ramiro, F. W. Seaver, O. Mirando, M. J. Eller, C. F. Pond, V. C. Reeve, G. M. Gomes, Miss Josefa Montes, H. W. Lafferty, T. Barraja, P. A. Bonnett, A. W. Colwell, J. F. Bray, L. Pascual, F. Reyling, J. A. Drinkwater, Mrs. L. Smith and child.

In steam-ship Italia, from Glasgow.—Mr. and Mrs. Harper, Miss M. Medlicott, Jno. Murray.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises......7:23 | Sun sets......4:38 | Moon sets..12:00

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook..12:36 | Gov. Island..1:25 | Hell Gate...2:47

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK....THURSDAY, Dec. 25.

ARRIVED.

Steam-ship City of Havana, Phillips, Havana Dec. 20, with mdse. and passengers to F. Alexandre & Sons.

Steam-ship Richmond, Lawrence, Norfolk, with mdse. and passengers to Old Dominion Steam-ship Co.

Steam-ship James Adger, Lockwood, Charleston Dec. 21, with mdse. and passengers to James W. Quintard & Co.

Steam-ship Italia, (Br.,) Craig, Glasgow Dec 10, with mdse. and 19 passengers to Henderson Bros.

Steam-ship Old Dominion, Walker, Richmond, City Point and Norfolk, with mdse. and passengers to Old Dominion Steam-ship Co.

Ship Cronstadt, (new,) ——, of and 12 ds. from Windsor, N. S. Is anchored at Sandy Hook for orders.

Bark Marco Polo, (Ger.,) Minssen, Bremen 49 ds., with mdse. and 234 passengers to Herm, Koop & Co. Had 2 deaths and 1 birth.

Bark Il Libero, (Ital.,) Farro, Antwerp 65 ds., in ballast to order.

Bark Metis, (of Boston,) Ellis, Bremen Oct. 27, in ballast to Vernon H. Brown & Co. Is anchored at Sandy Hook for orders.

Bark Orpheus, (Ger.,) Ballehr, Hamburg 47 ds., with mdse. to Funch, Edye & Co.

Bark Europa, Gardner, New-Bedford.

Schr. R. M. Hayward, Doane, New-Bedford, for Baltimore.

Schr. T. P. Abell, Carr, Providence.

SAILED—Steam-ships Pommerania, for Hamburg; Herman Livingston, for Savannah; South Carolina, for Charleston; Isaac Bell, for Norfolk, &c.

WIND—Sunset, light, W.; cloudy and hazy.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 25.—Passed out bark Manitou, for the West Indies, and brig Gefion, for Cork. Sld. brig Chattanooga, for Norfolk, and a fleet of coasters bound N.

LATEST SHIPPING NEWS BY CABLE.

LONDONDERRY, Dec. 25.—The Allan steamer Caspian, from Baltimore Dec. 11, arr. to-day and proceeded for Liverpool.

The Anchor Line steamer Sidonia, from New-York Dec. 10, touched here to-day and sld. for Glasgow.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The following vessels have sld. for American ports: Jennie, Frederica, Annie Weston, M. S. Peterson, Oloff Kempre, Mirra, Jonathan Chase, and James Borland.

Arr. from American ports: Coquette, Purveyor, Minna, Francesco, Chiazzaro, Goethe, Tamerlane, Edmund, Caringa, and Machiavelle.

WE OFFER DURING THE HOLIDAYS OUR STOCK OF READY-MADE
CLOTHING
AND FURNISHING GOODS
AT PRICES LOWER THAN EVER.
CALL AND SEE US.
J. M. VARIAN & SON,
NOS. 70 AND 72 BOWERY.

MUSIC BOXES.
All styles, all sizes, and the largest stock in the world to select from.
REAL BRONZES,
CLOCKS, STATUETTES, CARD-RECEIVERS, GLOVE-BOXES, JEWEL-BOXES, &c.,
and many other novelties just imported.
BUY NOW.
PANIC PRICES CAN'T LAST FOREVER.
M. J. PAILLARD & CO., 680 Broadway

UNTIL the 1st of January, the department of half-price goods will be continued. An assortment of SILVER JEWELRY, CHATELAINES, &c., has just been added.
TIFFANY & CO.,
Union square.

OPEN EVENINGS DURING THE HOLIDAYS.
SOLID
SILVER-WARE.
Articles useful and ornamental. Forks and Spoons in sets. Fancy Articles in boxes for gifts, at extremely low prices. Services for Dinner. Tea and Dessert Centre pieces. Bowls and Epergnes to match. Bibles, Prayer-books, and Hymnals, richly bound and decorated with silver. Also, a very fine assortment of Silver Jewelry, new fashions. The largest and richest Stock ever exhibited in New-York will now be offered at retail at the sales-room of the Gorham Company, in
BOND ST., NEAR BROADWAY.
Gorham Manuf'g Co.

CHICKERING
Grand, Square, and Upright Pianos.
These Standard instruments, which have been for more than fifty years before the public, still maintain their high reputation, and the award of the Highest Recompenses from the most critical tribunals ever bestowed upon any Piano Manufacturers, places them at the Head of all Competition.
The leading Pianists of both Europe and America, including Dr. Franz Liszt, Thalberg, Moscheles, Gottschalk, and others have given the most flattering testimony of the
Superiority of the Chickering Pianos over All Others.
At the World's Fair in London, in 1851, they received THE PRIZE MEDAL.
At the great International Exhibition in Paris, 1867, these Pianos were awarded A First Gold Medal, and Still Higher Recompense,
The Imperial Cross of the Legion of Honor.
As this was declared a superior award to the Gold Medal, and as Chickering & Sons were the only competing firm who received this Supreme Testimonial, we are justified in claiming a superiority over all other exhibitors.
Persons intending to purchase a piano are invited to send to us for an Illustrated Catalogue, (mailed free,) by which it will be seen that our Prices are as low as the Guarantee of First-class materials and workmanship will justify.
CHICKERING & SONS,
No. 11 East 14th st., New-York.

STEINWAY
Grand, Square, and Upright Pianos
Have obtained the highest honors ever awarded to any Piano Manufacturer in the world.
First of the Grand Gold Medals of Honor.
World's Fair, Paris, 1867—London, 1862.
The world's greatest Pianists and Composers, including the renowned Dr. Franz Liszt and Anton Rubinstein, the Academies of Fine Arts of Paris, Berlin, and Stockholm, as well as the piano-purchasing public of Europe and America, unite in the unanimous verdict of the
Superiority of the Steinway Pianos Over All Others.
Prices as low as the exclusive use of the best materials and most thorough workmanship will permit. Old Pianos taken in exchange.
Illustrated catalogues, with price list, mailed free on application.
STEINWAY & SONS' Warerooms,
STEINWAY HALL,
109 and 111 East 14th st., N. Y.

WEBER
PIANO-FORTES.
Indorsed by the leading artists, seminaries, and the press as the
BEST PIANOS MADE
Prices and terms in full accordance with the times and the expectations of purchasers.
WAREROOMS:
5TH AV., CORNER 16TH ST., NEW-YORK

KNABE
GRAND, SQUARE, AND UPRIGHT PIANOS.
These instruments have been before the public for forty years, and upon their excellence alone attained an
UNPURCHASED PRE-EMINENCE,
Which pronounces them
UNEQUALED
For their TONE, TOUCH, WORKMANSHIP, and DURABILITY.
New-York House: No. 112 FIFTH AV.
WM. KNABE & CO.,
New-York and Baltimore.

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SHERRY WINES,
No. 609 Broadway.
UNITED STATES AGENTS FOR THE LONDON HOUSE OF
GORMAN & CO.
PACKAGES DELIVERED DIRECT FROM BOND.

REDUCTIONS.
LONDON DRESS SCARFS,
$2 00.
ENGLISH WINDSORS,
$1 50.
REYNIER'S DOG-SKIN GLOVES,
$1 50.
WARD'S,
NO. 387 BROADWAY,
AND
BROADWAY, CORNER 14TH ST.